

Victim Statement Abstract

This abstract replaces an email from Victim EJ to Leah McCluskey, Professional Responsibility Administrator for the Archdiocese of Chicago's Office of Professional Responsibility, on March 28, 2004, regarding his allegation of abuse against Rev. Russell Romano. The alleged abuse consisted of Fr. Romano making inappropriate gestures and advances toward Victim EJ when Victim EJ was a student at Quigley Preparatory Seminary South. Victim EJ had a confrontation with Fr. Romano and shortly thereafter Fr. Romano was removed from Quigley Preparatory Seminary South. Another priest told Victim EJ that Fr. Romano was gone and should never have been allowed to work with children.

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office for the Protection of Children and Youth
Office of Assistance Ministry
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review
Safe Environment Office



P. O. Box 1979
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979
312-751-5254, general
312-751-8307, fax

Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review

Review Board

Saturday, February 16, 2008 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

MINUTES

Review Board Members Present:

[REDACTED]

Review Board Members Present Via Phone:

[REDACTED]

Review Board Members Not Present:

[REDACTED]

Non-members Present:

Leah McCluskey, Director, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review
Rev. Daniel Smilanic, Cardinal's Delegate to the Review Board
Patricia Zacharias, Assistant Director, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review

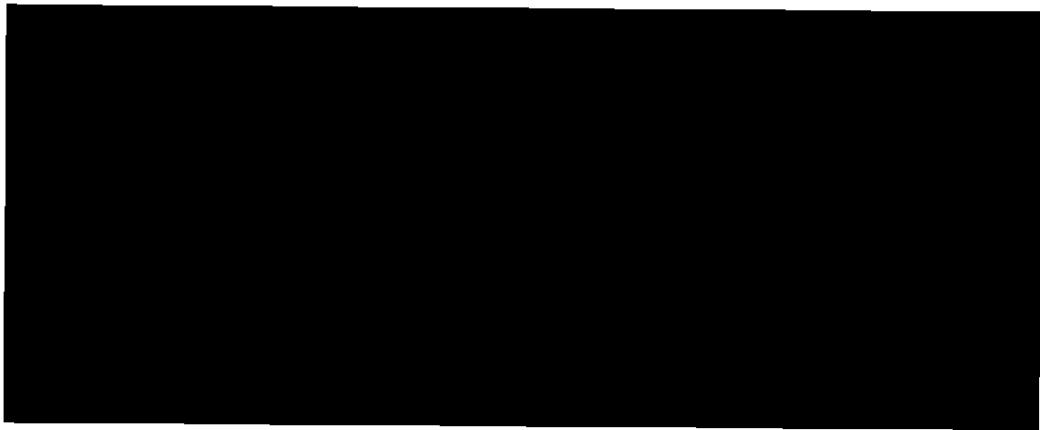


- I. **Approval of Minutes** – January 19, 2008
 - Minutes approved

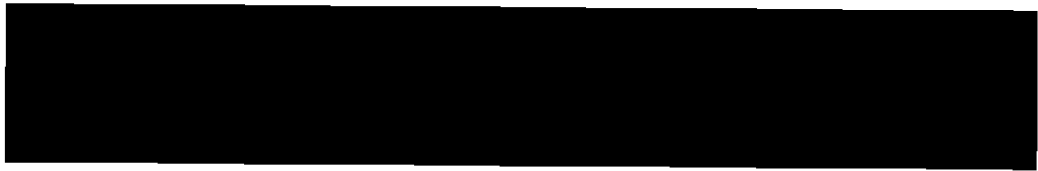
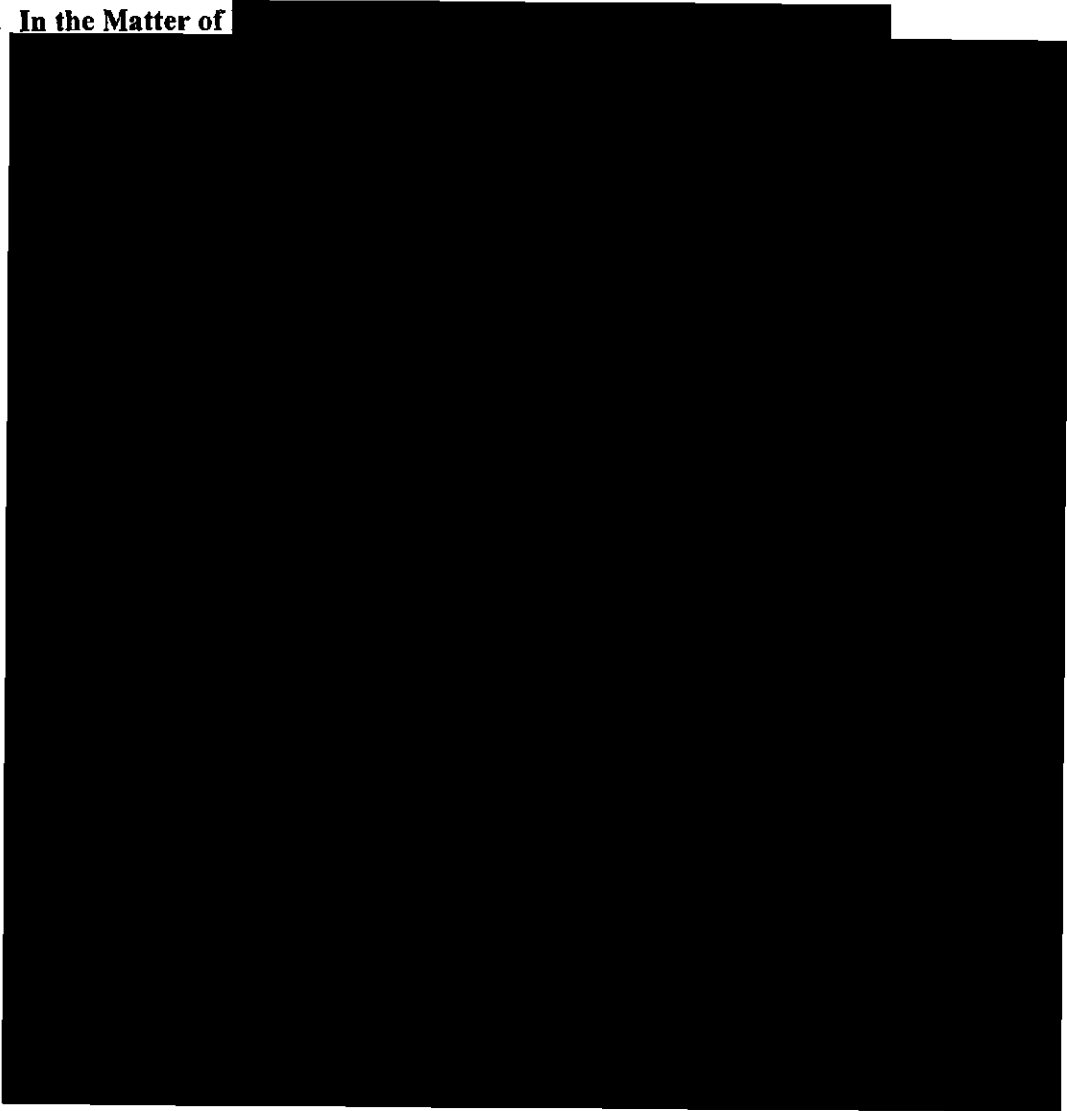
- II. **Case Reviews**
Initial Review

- A. **In the Matter of**

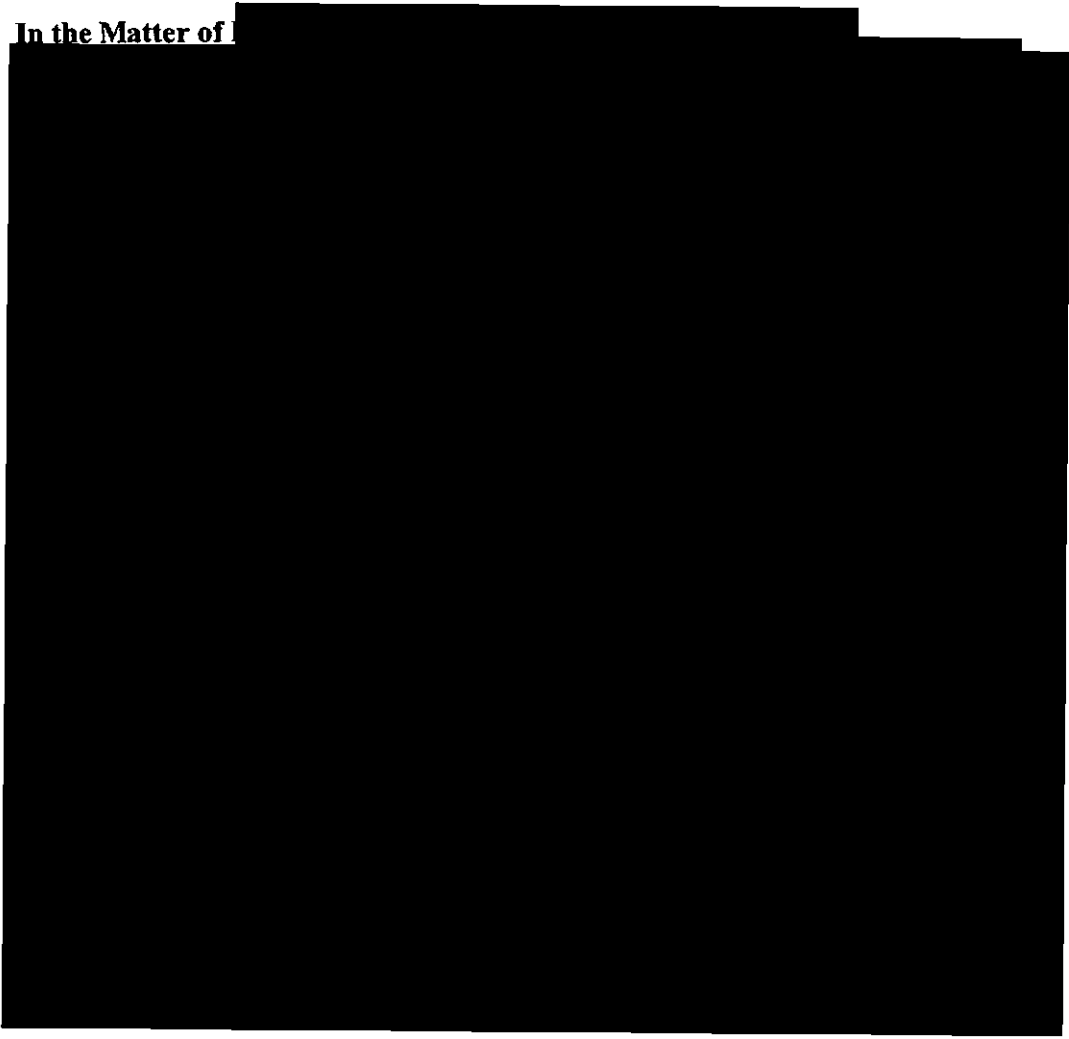
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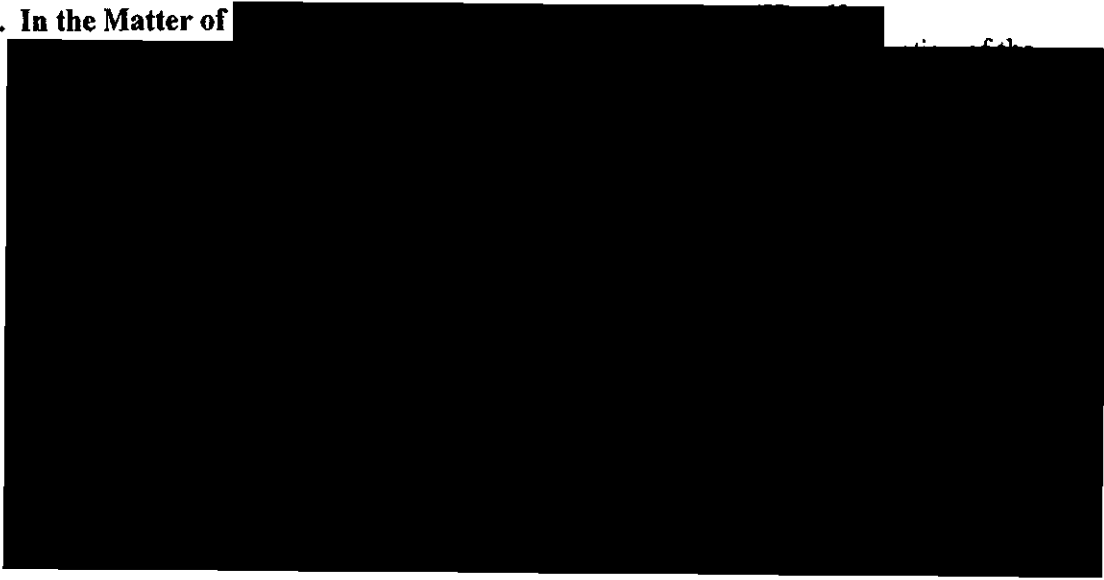
B. In the Matter of

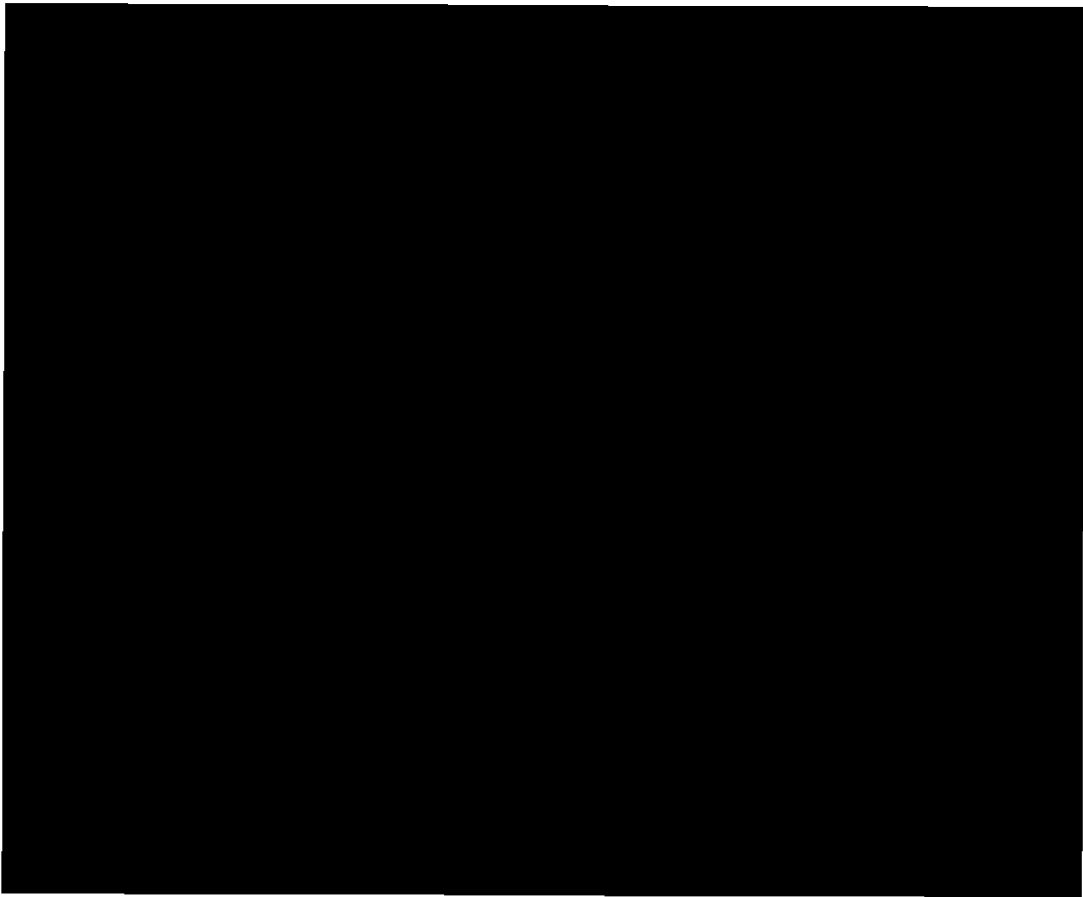


C. In the Matter of



D. In the Matter of





E. In the Matter of





F. In the Matter of Rev. Russell L. Romano [Resigned] – PFR - 238

The Review Board conducted an Initial Review of [REDACTED] allegation of the sexual abuse of a minor by Rev. Russell Romano. A summary of the allegation is as follows: allegation of alleged abuse initially reported by [REDACTED] civil attorney; Fr. Romano took [REDACTED] to the drive-in to see a pornographic movie; provided him alcohol on this and numerous other occasions; slept overnight in rectory after being given alcohol by Fr. Romano; [REDACTED] woke up naked, [REDACTED] next to Fr. Romano who was also naked; one other incident occurred when [REDACTED] was 18 or over.

Fr. Smilanic shared with the Review Board that he and Fr. Romano were classmates in the seminary. He also expressed his knowledge of Fr. Romano participating in treatment, which included chemical sterilization.

During the Review Board meeting, [REDACTED] accessed the Illinois Department of Professional Regulations website and found that Russell L. Romano, Jr. is a Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor [LCPC] and substance abuse counselor in good standing. As per the website, Mr. Romano's license is active.

The Review Board recommended that Cardinal George instruct diocesan attorneys to inform the Illinois Department of Professional Regulations that Russell Lawrence Romano is on the Archdiocese of Chicago's list of "Archdiocesan Priests with Substantiated Allegations of Sexual Misconduct with Minors."

In an 8-0 vote in light of the information presented, the Board determined that this matter warrants additional investigation. The Board also advised Ms. McCluskey to do the following:

- Request [REDACTED] school records from St. Leonard
- Request through the Chancellor Fr. Romano's files for review [seminary, Chancellor, Vicar for Priests]
- Attempt to verify if Fr. Romano worked with the altar boys or not while assigned to St. Leonard
- Ask [REDACTED] if he would allow Ms. McCluskey to speak with [REDACTED] Rev. Charles Rubey

In the Matter of Rev. Russell L. Romano [Resigned] – PFR - 238

The Review Board conducted an Initial Review of [REDACTED] allegation of the sexual abuse of a minor by Rev. Russell Romano. A summary of the allegation is as follows: three incidents; Fr. Romano got into [REDACTED] bed, kissed him, rubbed his chest, and performed oral sex on him-- [REDACTED] continually told Fr. Romano to stop; second incident, Fr. Romano got into bed between [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] [REDACTED]-- [REDACTED] heard [REDACTED] tell Fr. Romano to stop; third incident, Fr. Romano got in bed between [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] rubbed his chest and

masturbated him until [REDACTED] came into the room [REDACTED]; Fr. Romano was drunk during all three incidents.

Fr. Smilanic shared with the Review Board that he and Fr. Romano were classmates in the seminary. He also expressed his knowledge of Fr. Romano participating in treatment, which included chemical sterilization.

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- Request through the Chancellor Fr. Romano's files for review [seminary, Chancellor, Vicar for Priests]
- Attempt to verify [REDACTED] being pulled out of class by Fr. Romano
- Attempt to verify if Fr. Romano worked with the altar boys or not while assigned to St. Leonard
- Ask [REDACTED] if he would allow Ms. McCluskey to speak with [REDACTED] Rev. Charles Rubey

In the Matter of Rev. Russell L. Romano [Resigned] – PFR - 238

The Review Board conducted an Initial Review of [REDACTED] allegation of the sexual abuse of a minor by Rev. Russell Romano. A summary of the allegation is as follows: Fr. Romano provided [REDACTED] alcohol on numerous occasions; Fr. Romano showed [REDACTED] Penthouse magazine; Fr. Romano lay on cot where [REDACTED] was sleeping and kissed his neck and nipples; inappropriate "I love you" and hugs; [REDACTED] was present when Fr. Romano sexually abused [REDACTED]

Fr. Smilanic shared with the Review Board that he and Fr. Romano were classmates in the seminary. He also expressed his knowledge of Fr. Romano participating in treatment, which included chemical sterilization.

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- Ask [REDACTED] if he would allow Ms. McCluskey to speak with [REDACTED] Rev. Charles Rubey

Review for Cause

G. In the Matter of [REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

In the Matter of

[REDACTED]

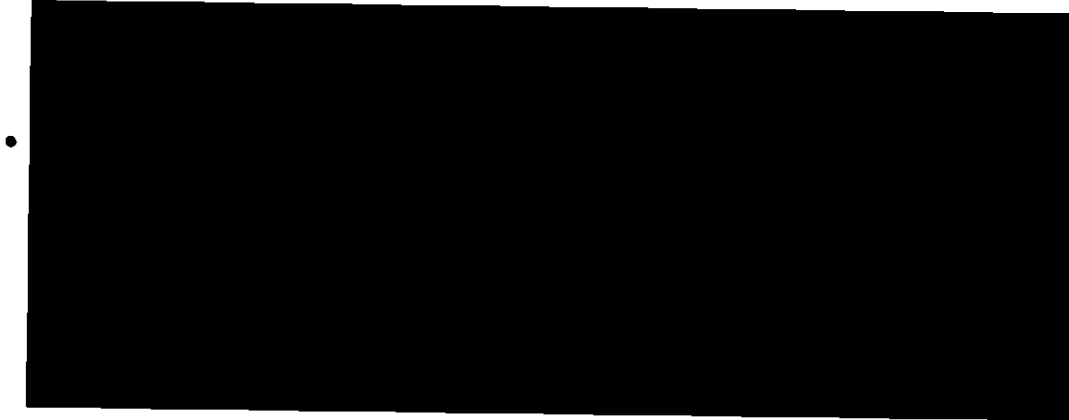
[REDACTED]

III. Canonical Updates

- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]

IV. Other Matters

- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]



- [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] will not be present at the scheduled March 15, 2008 Review Board meeting
- [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] would not be available for a Review Board meeting if it remains scheduled for April 19, 2008

Next scheduled meeting is Saturday, March 15, 2008 at 9:00 a.m.

St. Barbara Church
4008 Prairie Ave.
Brookfield, Illinois 60513

August 1, 1987

*Hand check to
Ray
for CPE
Lutheran
Rev. Russ
Romano*

Dear Ray,

I'll be beginning my second unit of CPE in September. The place of the site will be Loyola University Hospital.

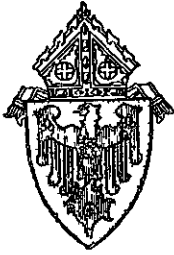
Tuition is \$300. and is already past due, may I ask that you forward a check made out to LOYOLA UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO to me at your convenience.

CPE at Alexian Brother's ends August 28th...I've found the program to be very supportive to my healing process and affirming in my desire to work in hospital ministry.

Sincerely,

Russ

Russ Romano



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

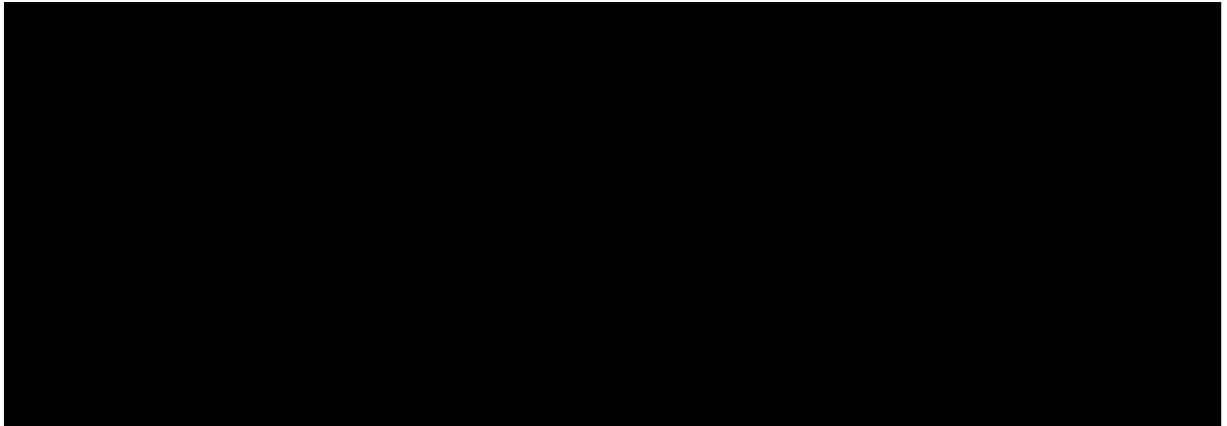
POST OFFICE BOX 1979

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

July 23, 1987

Vicar for Priests
800 North Clark Street, Suite 311
Chicago, Illinois 60611
Off. (312) 642-1837
Res. (312) 528-0540

TO: file
FROM: Ray Goedert
RE: Russ Romano





ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

Vicar for Priests
800 North Clark Street, Suite 311
Chicago, Illinois 60611
Off: (312) 642-1837
Res: (312) 528-0540

April 28, 1987

Rev. James Gullicksow
Alexian Brothers Medical Center
800 Biesterfield Road
Elk Grove Village, Illinois 60007

Dear Rev. Gullickson,

This is a letter of recommendation for Rev. Russell Romano, a priest of the Archdiocese, who is seeking acceptance into the Clinical Pastoral Training program at your Medical Center.

I have worked with Fr. Romano and feel that this training would be valuable to him in his future ministry.

Sincerely,

Rev Thomas Ventura

Rev. Thomas Ventura

4-28-87 : meeting w. Russ & Dick Tesmer, supervisor at Alexian Brothers. Clarify their communication. Russ is becoming more positive about hospital work. Hopes it is not "blacklisted" by circumstances for hospital posts. Russ stability in living situation when he enters CPE. Would like to remain with Ann Hughes who is both healthy challenge & support.



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

Vicar for Priests
800 North Clark Street, Suite 311
Chicago, Illinois 60611
Off: (312) 642-1837

TO: File
DATE: Dec. 18, 1987
RE: Russ Romano

1. I received a phone call today from Bishop Francis Roque of the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA. He called in response to my letter of recommendation for Russ Romano.

2. Bishop Roque stated that the Military Archdiocese is reluctant to endorse Russ for the VA, especially at Hines. He said there are too many pressures in that type of ministry. [REDACTED]

As an aside, Bishop Roque stated that Hines itself has a particular problem in that there is difficulty with the Head Chaplain, Chaplain Lanier. Both of the Catholic priests that are stationed there at this time are anxious to get out and to be reassigned.

3. Bishop Roque stated that VA hospitals are not like the normal Catholic hospitals. The priests there are like gypsies. They are pretty much left on their own and once they are in the VA system, there is very little control that anyone else exerts over them.

4. Bishop Roque does not want to hurt Russ, but he really does not think that this would be a good ministry for him. He did not just want to put this in a letter, as it might appear to be too cold-hearted a response. However, I did ask him if he would send me a letter to this effect so that I could communicate this to Russ. [REDACTED]

Joe Bender [redacted] re Russ Romano.

7-19-86

1. [redacted] got a letter & phone call from Russ. [redacted] was concerned about how to respond. In one phone call, Russ talked to [redacted] & apologized. In another phone call, Russ said [redacted] should not tell anyone because he isn't supposed to call people under 18.

Joe Bender's advice: writing is fine, but phone calls aren't. Content of letter was some old stuff. You are important to me, etc.

2. Joe Bender got a letter from Russ. Statement "I'm very concerned about [redacted] I hope he is doing well... My friend [redacted] is nephew saw [redacted] at a party. [redacted] I hope that had nothing to do with what happened."

3. Joe Bender talked to [redacted]. He was bothered that he seemed to be followed or watched. A stranger said "Russ said to say hello."

- Ok to use Joe Bender's name.

[Large redacted block]

Don Grassie

re Russ Romano

7-19-86.

- W.
H.
- Joe Binder reported that Russ was in contact with [redacted] by letter & by phone.
 - [redacted] got upset by this. Russ talked to [redacted] as well. He said to [redacted] "I love you very much & I care about you."
 - [redacted], another boy, mentioned that he had been followed in a car by a friend of Russ who stopped him & said Russ hopes you are doing well.

- What does "upset" mean? Would "confused" be a better word.

- Joe Binder will phone TV about this.

- Key element: we don't want the kids upset even if Russ means well.



STATE OF ILLINOIS

GORDON JOHNSON
DIRECTOR

DEPARTMENT OF
CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

ONE NORTH OLD STATE CAPITOL PLAZA
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62701

REPORT OF SUSPECTED CHILD ABUSE AND/OR NEGLECT TO MANDATED REPORTERS
April 26, 1986

Joe Binder
Quigley High School
7740 South Western
Chicago, IL 60620

Dear Mr. Binder:

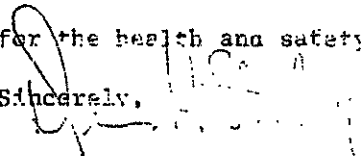
Re: SCR Case No. 0221374A2B02
Name: Presell Romano

This Department has completed an investigation of the report you submitted on 03/25/86 of suspected child abuse and/or neglect. After a thorough evaluation of the circumstances, we have determined your report to be "indicated." This means that credible evidence of child abuse and/or neglect has been found by our Child Protective Services Caseworker.

You may request information on whether the Department took temporary protective custody of the child(ren) or made a referral to the State's Attorney. Such request must be in writing and must include the subject of the record requested. Your identity must be verified by a notary public whose seal and signature are attached to the request. Please send such requests to me at the above address.

Thank you for your demonstrated concern for the health and safety of children.

Sincerely,


Dennis H. Stuckey, Administrator
State Central Register

003513

AOC 004512



STATE OF ILLINOIS

Gordon Johnson
Director

DEPARTMENT OF
CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

COOK COUNTY REGIONAL OFFICE
1026 SOUTH DAMEN AVENUE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60612 - 312-793-4610

Date: 3/25/80

Mr. Joe Bundezi
Quynley's HS
7140 S. Western
Chgo. IL 60620

Re: [REDACTED]
SC# 221374-A

Re: Mr. Joe Bundezi

On 3/25/80 you made a report to the Department of Children and Family Services alleging the possible abuse and/or neglect of [REDACTED]

After a complete investigation, the report is being indicated. You will receive notification of this finding from the State Central Register.

Thank you for your cooperation. If there are any questions, please call me at 93-2169.

Sincerely,

E. Labroot
Division of Child Protection

File



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

CONFIDENTIAL

Vicar for Priests
800 North Clark Street, Suite 311
Chicago, Illinois 60611
Off: (312) 642-1837
Res: (312) 528-0540

TO: Chancellor's file
FROM: Vicar for Priests
RE: Rev. Russell Romano '73

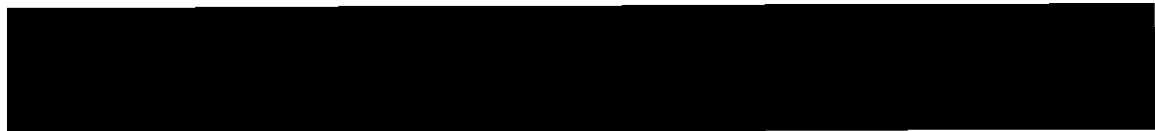
3-24-86: Rector of Quigley Seminary South reported concern from J. Binder, school counselor, about inappropriate behavior by R. with students [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. A report was made to Ms. Lightfoot of the Department of Children and Family Services of Illinois.

3-25-86: Meeting of the Rector, Fr. Romano, and the Vicar for Priests to discuss the allegations, and R's response. The following actions were taken:

- R. Terminated his work at Quigley South.



- R. was placed under a canonical mandate to cease further contacts with persons under age 18.
- The Quigley faculty contacted the parents of the boys involved. They also conducted a discrete investigation of approximately 30 present and past Quigley South students to determine whether any other boys had been affected. No other cases surfaced.



AOC 004514

from John Killeen

CONFIDENTIAL NOTES ON MEETING WITH RUSS ROMANO ON APRIL 29, 1985

On Monday, April 29, 1985, Russ Romano and I met during 5th and 6th periods to talk about A) my concern for Russ' perceived withdrawal and unhappiness and B) some incidents with some of our students. The following is a report of the situation.

1. What Preceded the Meeting

A. Ed Mikolajczyk and I had discussed Russell's mood shifts and lack of presence at Quigley. Our discussion was kicked off by Russ' changing his mind about the SummerProgram, first saying he did not want to run it, but that he would be co-director to saying that he wanted nothing to do with it to a couple of days later writing me a note saying that he would be director if the position was still open. In talking about Russ, Ed expressed a concern that Russ might have a drinking problem, as well as being noticeably withdrawn from his friends and classmates.

B. Joe Binder came to me about 2 weeks ago very concerned about Russ having Quigley students over to his rectory where he served them liquor (or just beer?) and showed the hard core pornographic movies. Joe was very concerned that Russell would use the liquor to "loosen them up" so that they would reveal personal problems, etc. Some of the students that were mentioned in general were

██████████, ██████████, ██████████. Joe mentioned that a priest friend of his from outside Quigley had mentioned to him that it appeared that Russ "liked the boys." Joe also talked about the contract that was drawn up between ██████████ and Russ by Jack Daley and John Collins. Joe mentioned that ██████████ parents had been called in at the time to apprise them of the situation. Russ had been calling ██████████ late at night when he was drunk, ██████████ subsequently mentioned that Russ had threatened to commit suicide to ██████████ (over the phone) and also from time to time asking ██████████ for a hug and/or a kiss from time to time in the back room of the Student Government Room. Joe and I also discussed Russ' withdrawal from the faculty.

C. ██████████ came in to talk to me on Friday, April 26. He had talked to Fr. Daley earlier in the day and Jack had urged him to talk to me regarding the breaking of the contract -- specifically, he had received a note from Russ inviting him out to dinner with ██████████ to plan strategy for the upcoming Student Government elections. ██████████ mentioned a lot of the problems he had had with Russ in the past and also his concern that Russ not get involved with any more students; ██████████ was especially concerned about ██████████ ██████████ explained more about the groups that Russ had over.

D. I also spokewith Jack Daley and John Collins and they corroborated what the others had said and the necessity to talk with Russ.

E. Finally, Sunday evening, April 28, I spoke with Jerry Kicanas and he suggested a 2 part approach to Russ: first, express concern for Russ and his personal problems, and second, to make it very clear that the drinking, movies, hugs, and kisses with our students must stop immediately. Basically, that is what I said to Russell.

2. The Meeting

As I mentioned, we met for 2 periods on April 29. For the first part of the meeting, I expressed my concerns for Russ as his pastor. I felt he had withdrawn from Quigley (he agreed), that he was leaving right after classes (he said he was tired), that he did not get along with practically any of the faculty (he had trouble agreeing with that) and that he might have a drinking problem. When I confronted him with the possibility that he may have a drinking problem, his response was that he had drunk to excess at times (Dom Grassi mentioned that the police had to bring him home once after he had had an accident while driving under the influence). (others say that he has admitted that he cannot stop at one drink). When asked directly, he honestly stated "I don't know."

A very common thread throughout the conversation was that Russ feels that everyone takes advantage of him — both students and faculty. But he ties this into his image of Jesus. He feels that perhaps years from now, by his patient suffering, people will realize how much he did for them. Dom mentions that every parish he has been in, he leaves bitter because they have used him up and then discarded him. This attitude should be looked at if Russ is to change and become happier, more fulfilled, and more successful in his priesthood. Another factor that is interwoven that complicates Russ' relations with the students is his concept of mentoring, which is not a bad idea in itself, but when it becomes too close and smothering a relationship, it can cause real harm to both Russ and the student. Russ needs to look at "mentoring" on a whole.

The second part of our conversation had to deal with the alcohol, movies, hugs and kisses. Russ immediately and without hesitation admitted that these showed poor judgment and that they would stop immediately — that sincerely I should never worry about him doing any of this again. I thanked him for his quick recognition and correction of this, and he really seemed sincere — as if it had been something he had been thinking about and realizing was not too wise. I emphasized that these must cease immediately — otherwise further action would have to be taken, and he understood.

3. After the meeting

Throughout the meeting, Russ' attitude was very good. He was open and receptive to what I was saying. At times I asked him what he was feeling — at times, he said he was just sad, at other times he was hurt that others had not come forward and shared these things with him directly. He was also concerned about [REDACTED]. He mentioned that he never felt that he forced liquor on the students, but if they asked, he would give it to them - but he felt that only 4 students had drunk with him.

At the close of the meeting, Russ seemed sincere about trying to put the pieces together, and in the day and a half since the meeting he has talked with Ed and Joe Binder. Russ needs to be supported and loved as he tries to work on things; he appears to really be trying hard

4. Random Thoughts

A. Russ shared with me that there have been some serious family problems that have put him under stress.

B. Russ was worried how all this affected how people looked at him — how wide spread were some of these things. He also wondered how these things affected his future jobs here at Quigley.

C. Russ feels frustrated at Quigley at present since there are no new challenges. He prefers taking on projects for a year or two, and then moving on to something else.

D. In talking with Jerry Kicanas today, he suggested that perhaps Russ have an Alcoholism evaluation at a hospital so that if there is an illness it can be treated in time.

E. In talking with Joe Binder afterwards, he felt that some counselling/spiritual direction was in order because some of these things are so intertwined with Russ' faith and vision of ministry.

F. After our meeting, we arranged to meet again in a week, on May 6, to see how things are going.



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

Office of the Archbishop

October 18, 1991

Dear Russell:

I have received the letter which you sent to Bishop Raymond Goedert regarding your resignation from the active ministry of the Archdiocese of Chicago. In light of your request and also in accord with our previous discussions, I hereby accept your resignation, effective October 1, 1991.

I do ask you to work out the necessary arrangements for auto and health insurances with Bishop Goedert or Father Patrick O'Malley, who has succeeded Ray Goedert as Vicar for Priests.


Russell, I know this request comes after much prayer and discernment. Be assured that during this time of transition, you will be in my prayers and thoughts.

With cordial good wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

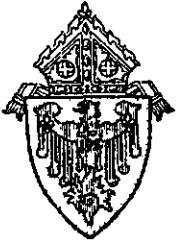
Joseph Carl Bernardini
Archbishop of Chicago

Kenneth Vels
Ecclesiastical Notary

Russell Romano


cc: Most Reverend Raymond E. Goedert
Reverend Patrick J. O'Malley ✓

AOC 004518



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

800 NORTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 311

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610

Off (312) 642-1837

January 22, 1991

Rev. Russell Romano
St. Barbara Rectory
4008 Prairie Avenue
Brookfield, Illinois 60513

Dear Russ,

I received word from Ken Velo this morning that the Cardinal has granted your request for a leave of absence. Although he was not able to see you before his departure for Rome, he did ask that I convey this message to you. Therefore, Russ, your leave of absence for six months becomes effective immediately and will expire July 31, 1991.

I presume you and Mike Hogan will work out the arrangements for your departure from St. Barbara's. A leave of absence, Russ, involves several other practical matters, as well as some policies that the Archdiocese requests you observe:

1. Your salary for the month of February and thereafter will come from the Pastoral Center and will be mailed directly to you. Please be sure to let me know where you will be residing.

2. Your automobile insurance and hospitalization coverage will remain in effect throughout the period of your leave.

3. Should you become employed during this period, your salary, of course, will be discontinued. The same will be true of insurance, as soon as you have your own coverage.

4. Although you remain a priest of the archdiocese, it is advised that you not wear clerical garb while on this leave of absence, and you may not exercise any public ministry whatever without the explicit permission of the Cardinal. Of course, the Sacrament of Penance may be administered to one in danger of death.

5. In the event you would wish to seek employment with any Church-related organization or agency, you must first obtain the Cardinal's approval.

AOC 004519

If you have any questions about these matters or anything else, don't hesitate to call.

Prior to his departure, the Cardinal set up an appointment for you on Monday, February 11, at the Pastoral Center at 12:30 P.M. If, for any reason, you are unable to keep this appointment, please call me or Ken Velo to set up another date.

Once again, Russ, many thanks for your dedicated service throughout these years of your active ministry. Please keep in touch from time to time to let me know how you are doing. I would especially be pleased to hear from you mid-way in your leave and again towards the end.

With prayers, Russ, that Our Lord will bless you generously during these important months of discernment, I remain

Faternally yours,


Rev. Raymond Goedert

copy: Cardinal Bernardin

re: Romano

Name of Victim	Date Allegation Received	Date of Incident	Location of Incident	Summary of Allegation
[REDACTED]	25-Apr-86 1986	25-Apr-86 1986	Quigley So	inappropriate behavior, specifically serving beer to minors, showing porn movies, hugs and kisses, students sleeping at rectory
[REDACTED]	25-Apr-86 1986	25-Apr-86 1986	Quigley So	inappropriate behavior, specifically serving beer to minors, showing porn movies, hugs and kisses, students sleeping at rectory
[REDACTED]	25-Apr-86 1986	25-Apr-86 1986	Quigley So	movies, hugs & kisses and being in the same bed with [REDACTED] who stayed overnigh in Romano's quarters at St Barbara Rectory [REDACTED] indicated
[REDACTED]	25-Apr-86 1986	25-Apr-86 1986	Quigley So	Romano made inappropriate gestures but [REDACTED] reported he was outraged and rejected them
[REDACTED]	25-Apr-86 1986	25-Apr-86 1986	Quigley So	inappropriate behavior, specifically serving beer to minors, showing porn movies, hugs and kisses, students sleeping at rectory
[REDACTED]	25-Apr-86 1986	25-Apr-86 1986	Quigley So	inappropriate behavior, specifically serving beer to minors, showing porn movies, hugs and kisses, students sleeping at rectory
[REDACTED]	01-Mar-85 1985	01-Mar-85 1985	Quigley So	inappropriate hugs and kisses

✓

Substantiated

- ✓ TRUE
- ✓ TRUE
- ✓ TRUE
- ✓ TRUE
- ✓ TRUE
- ✓ TRUE

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Jimmy M. Lago
Chancellor



Post Office Box 1979
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979

March 19, 2004



RE: Rev. Russell Lawrence Romano

Dear [REDACTED]

We have received your request for information regarding Russell Lawrence Romano. The records of the Archdiocese of Chicago reflect that Russell Lawrence Romano was ordained a priest of the Archdiocese on May 9, 1973.

In March 1986 the Archbishop determined there was reason to suspect Russell Lawrence Romano had engaged in sexual misconduct with a minor and he was placed under restrictions. Public authorities were notified of the matter.

Russell Lawrence Romano undertook a leave of absence on January 22, 1991 and he resigned from priestly ministry on October 18, 1991.

Please understand, a determination that there is reasonable cause to suspect that a priest has engaged in sexual misconduct with a minor does not mean that the allegation has been proved. It means the allegation has been determined to have sufficient reliability to warrant further action by the Archdiocese.

If you have additional information regarding this individual you wish to bring to our attention, please contact Ms. Leah McCluskey of the Office of Professional Responsibility at (312) 751-5205.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jimmy M. Lago".

Jimmy M. Lago
Chancellor

ROMANO, Rev. Russell Lawrence

Date of birth

Ordained

5/9/73

Nationality Italian/German



Russell L. Romano

Date Appointed	Assignment	Charge	Date Left	Extraor.	Appointments
5/9/73	Saint Ann (Lausang)	Assistant	6-7-74		
Ltr 6-7-74	St. Leonard, Berwyn	Associate	TCC effective June 11, 1979		
TCC: 8-25-78	Cluster Vocation Director of St. Leonard Parish, Cicero				
TCC eff: 6-11-79	Our Lady Mother of the Church, Chgo		8-25-80		
TCC: 8-20-79	Cluster Vocation Director of Our Lady Mother of the Church, Chicago				
Ltr dtd: 8-11-80	Faculty, Ougley, Seminary, South w/residence at	Faculty Mem.			
Ltr dtd: 8-25-80	St. Barbara Brookfield	Residence			
NOTATION:					

April, 1986 Leave of Absence, [REDACTED], Washington D.C.

RECEIVED
 APR 07 2004
 ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO
 OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office for the Protection of Children and Youth
Office of Assistance Ministry
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review
Safe Environment Office



P O Box 1979
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979
312-534-5254, general
312-751-8307, fax

MEMORANDUM



To: Rev. Kenneth Budzikowsk, Vicar for Priests
Thomas Tharayil, Assistance Ministry

From: Santa Garcia, Secretary
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review

Re: [FILE - 238] Romano, Russell (Laicized Priest) [REDACTED]

Date: July 6, 2011

Please find enclosed a copy, with signatures, of the Allegations of the Sexual Abuse of a Minor Against Russell Romano (Laicized Priest) Made by [REDACTED] for your file.

Please contact Leah McCluskey at lmcccluskey@archchicago.org or (312) 534-5205 with any questions you have regarding this matter.
Thank you.

Attachment

Bc: John O'Malley, Legal Services

AOC 004525

Victim Statement Abstract

This abstract replaces the transcript of Victim EK's statement, given to Leah McCluskey, Director of the Archdiocese of Chicago's Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review, on May 26, 2011, formalizing his allegation of abuse against Rev. Russell Romano. The alleged abuse consisted of one incident of fondling when Victim EK was approximately 14 years old. The alleged abuse occurred at the St. Barbara's parish rectory. Victim EK also remembers Fr. Romano giving students at Quigley Preparatory Seminary South a dildo to hold while they spoke during class if he wanted to embarrass the student.

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

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DEC 7 2011

Office for the Protection of Children and Youth
Office of Assistance Ministry
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review
Safe Environment Office



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO
OFFICE FOR CHILD ABUSE INVESTIGATIONS AND REVIEW
Chicago, Illinois 60601
312-534-5254, general
312-751-8307, fax

MEMORANDUM

To: File – PFR- 238
From: Leah McCluskey, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review
Re: **RESPONSE OF RUSSELL ROMANO (LAICIZED PRIEST) TO THE ALLEGATION OF THE SEXUAL ABUSE OF A MINOR MADE BY [REDACTED]**
Date: December 1, 2011

Date of Meeting: November 18, 2011

Time of Meeting: 1:30 pm

Meeting Participants

Mr. Russell Romano
[REDACTED], wife of Russell Romano
Rev. Kenneth Budzikowski, Vicar for Priests
Leah McCluskey, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review

Meeting

Rev. Kenneth Budzikowski made arrangements for the November 18, 2011 meeting to take place at the Vicar for Priests Office.

After introductions took place, I presented Mr. Russell Romano with an envelope and informed him that it contained a copy of archdiocesan policies (*§1100 Clerical Sexual Abuse of Minors: Policies for Education, Prevention, Assistance to Victims and Procedures for Determination of Fitness for Ministry*), information on the professional investigation firm that may be used during the investigation of this matter, and CAIR’s statement on confidentiality. I also provided Mr. Romano with a copy of the report of [REDACTED] allegation of the sexual abuse of a minor against him (see file for allegation report with cover memo dated November 17, 2011).

In order to present [REDACTED] allegation to Mr. Romano, I gave Mr. Romano the choice to read the report himself or for me to read the report out loud. Mr. Romano looked to his wife for advice and she indicated to him that it was his choice. Mrs. Romano appeared tearful. Fr. Budzikowski and I also offered to leave the conference room if Mr. and Mrs. Romano wished. Mr. Romano eventually expressed his preference that Fr. Budzikowski and I leave the conference room so that he and his wife could read through the allegation.

PFR – 238
Romano, [REDACTED]
Page 1 of 2

Fr. Budzikowski and I left the conference room for approximately 20 minutes, until Mr. Romano invited us to return.

Mr. Romano asked questions that led to my providing a verbal explanation of the process. I informed Mr. and Mrs. Romano that due to the recent change in archdiocesan policy, this matter would not go before the Independent Review Board because Mr. Romano is no longer a cleric. I noted that as a result, my role would be complete once I presented [REDACTED] allegation to Mr. Romano and provided Mr. Romano with an opportunity to respond.

Mr. Romano expressed his appreciation for the information as well as for the copy of [REDACTED] allegation against him. When asked, Mr. Romano did not indicate that he had any response that he wished to make to the allegation. I invited Mr. Romano to provide a written response to the allegation at a later date if he wished. Mr. Romano expressed his understanding of this, but did not state if he would provide a response or not.

Fr. Budzikowski and I again thanked Mr. and Mrs. Romano for their time. It was agreed that Mr. Romano could contact Fr. Buzikowski or me with any questions or concerns.



Rev. Kenneth Budzikowski

12/5/11

Date



Leah McCluskey

12/1/11

Date

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APR 21 2011

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of Legal Services

John C. O'Malley
Director
jomalley@archchicago.org



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO
OFFICE FOR CHILD ABUSE
INVESTIGATIONS AND REVIEW
Post Office Box 6069
Chicago, Illinois 60660-0699

(312) 534-5379
Fax (312) 534-5252

April 18, 2011

Ms. Shauna Boliker
First Assistant State's Attorney
State's Attorney of Cook County
2650 South California, Room 11D36
Chicago, Illinois 60608

RE: [REDACTED]/Romano, Russell
Our File Number: 2011SC0024
Date of Birth: Unknown
Date of Incident: Unknown
Location of Incident: St. Barbara Rectory

Dear Ms. Boliker:

Please be advised that the Archdiocese of Chicago has received an allegation from [REDACTED] alleging that he was sexually abused by a former Archdiocesan priest, Russell Romano, while [REDACTED] was a minor attending Quigley Preparatory South. Quigley Preparatory South closed in 1990. The abuse is alleged to have taken place when [REDACTED] visited the former Rev. Romano at St. Barbara's rectory. [REDACTED] did not disclose the dates of the alleged abuse, but stated that he believes that Mr. Romano is currently working as a licensed counselor in Illinois. Mr. Romano was an Archdiocesan priest who is laicized.

If our office can provide any additional information, or be of any further help, please let me know.

Very truly yours,

Handwritten signature of John C. O'Malley in black ink.
John C. O'Malley
Director of Legal Services

JCOM:jgs

Cc: Ms. Leah McCluskey ✓
Mr. James A. Serritella
Ms. Dixie Peterson, DCFS Counsel

AOC 004529

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

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MAR 30 2011

Office of the Chancellor



Post Office Box 1979
Archdiocese of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois 60690
OFFICE FOR CHILD ABUSE
INVESTIGATIONS AND REVIEW

3/30/2011

Leah I was meeting
with this man yesterday
(a former [redacted] employee) about
something completely different,
when he gave me this.
After offering all the suppor-
-tive comments, I strongly

AOC 004530

suggested that he call you
to start the process. He
said that he did not want
money, but was ~~in~~ in need

[REDACTED]

an assistant in [REDACTED]

Net

[REDACTED]

said that he would get in
touch with you, but was con-
cerned about confidentiality. I
told him you would have information
both on all that - [REDACTED]

RECEIVED

MAR 30 2011

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO
OVERSIGHT
INVESTIGATIONS AND REVIEW

I have for the longest time fought labeling myself victim of priest sexual abuse, and the term seems to broad when you consider the range of the abuse and horror some of the victims have been through.

When I was a freshman at Quigley Preparatory Seminary South in Chicago, I visited Fr. Russell Romano at the St. Barbara rectory with another seminarian [REDACTED]. While sitting on a couch in his room, Romano placed his hand on my thigh and then moved it to cup and squeezed my genitals. I pushed away and left the rectory without saying anything to anyone.

Fr. Romano tormented me throughout my years at Quigley. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] I can't begin to imagine what affect his behavior had on others. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I learned that Fr. Romano's name wasn't on the original list of abusers, much to my dismay. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

In the end the burden of keeping the secret for nine years became too hard. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

I had not told anyone about Fr. Romano touching me at all until very recently, and even then I initially only admitted at first to him placing his hand on my leg. I have told [REDACTED] mom and dad. More recently, I have told he entire story to [REDACTED] immediate family.

I know it may not compare to what has happened to others, but I now understand this incident was the root of a battle with depression, that has progressed in severity and caused disruption throughout my life. I need help getting the care I need to get through this, I am hoping the Archioocese of Chicago will help.

Also, I have learned that Fr. Romano is working as a licensed counselor in Illinois and I want help doing something about that.

But this is my Church and I won't let these evil men win. I still want a place in the Church and the opportunity to make it better, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

I pray telling my story will only help me to heal, and ultimately do no harm to the Church I love so much.

AOC 004532

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office for the Protection of Children and Youth
Office of Assistance Ministry
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review
Safe Environment Office



P. O. Box 1979
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979
312-534-5254, general
312-751-8307, fax

MEMORANDUM

To: Rev. Kenneth Budzikowski, Vicar for Priests
Very Rev. John Canary, Vicar General
Colleen Dolan, Communications and Public Relations
Carol Fowler, Personnel Services
Rev. Jeffrey Grob, Cardinal's Delegate to the Review Board
Jimmy Lago, Chancellor
Very Rev. Daniel Smilanic, Canonical Services
Thomas Tharayil, Assistance Ministry

FILE COPY

From: Santa Garcia, Secretary *SG*
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review

Re: [PFR- 238] ROMANO, RUSSELL (LAICIZED PRIEST)
[REDACTED]

Date: March 31, 2011

A copy of a new allegation was received by this office on March 30, 2011.

Please advise this office of any information you may have in your files regarding [PFR- 238] ROMANO, RUSSELL (LAICIZED PRIEST) [REDACTED]

It is extremely important that you forward copies of any and all documentation pertinent to this case, to this office, within 5 business days of receipt of this memo to ensure that the investigation of this matter be properly handled.

Please contact Leah McCluskey, Director, of the Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review with any questions you may have at (312) 534-5205 or lmcccluskey@archchicago.org regarding this matter. Thank you.

Cc: John O'Malley, Office of Legal Services
Jan Slattery, Office for the Protection of Children and Youth

From: Leah McCluskey
To: [REDACTED]
Date: 3/30/2011 3:40 PM
Subject: Re: Referred by Jimmy Lago
Attachments: Leah McCluskey.vcf

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you so much for your e-mail.

[REDACTED], to please feel free to contact me. When we schedule a time to meet, you are also more than welcome to have anyone with you if you would like--some people I have met with have chosen [REDACTED] a friend, family member, or his/her attorney.

In terms of a meeting itself, we can meet wherever you choose. Our offices are downtown within walking distance of the Pastoral Center (Quigley), or I could make arrangements for us to meet in a location that is more convenient for you (we have made arrangements to meet with people in conference rooms in hotels). People have also made the request that we meet with them [REDACTED] or with their attorney in their attorney's office.

[REDACTED] I look forward to hearing back from you once you have had the opportunity to speak with your therapist. Thank you again.

Peace,

Leah

Leah McCluskey, MSW, LSW
Director, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review
Archdiocese of Chicago
737 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 900
Chicago, Illinois 60611
Office: (312) 534-5205
Fax: (312) 751-5279
lmcccluskey@archchicago.org

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>>> [REDACTED] 3/30/2011 3:19 PM >>>

Leah,

I'll try to get back to you with a time. Jimmy mentioned that I might want an attorney. I strongly dismissed the idea at first I don't want injure the Church. But I guess I may need to think about it. And also update the situation [REDACTED]

While I understand that asking for help for me is important. My

biggest concern is if Romano is still in practice as a therapist, I think I may need help with an attorney for that. I don't want him harming anyone else.

[REDACTED] I will be back in touch next Friday.

On Mar 30, 2011, at 2:07 PM, Leah McCluskey <lmcccluskey@archchicago.org> wrote:

> Dear [REDACTED]
 >
 > Thank you very much for your e-mail. It is good to hear from you. I cannot imagine how difficult this is for you, but wish to again express my appreciation for your communications with me.
 >
 > Unfortunately, I will be out of town next Monday and Tuesday at a conference; and next Thursday I will be at a workshop all day. Are there any other days and times that would work for you to meet?
 >
 > Peace,
 >
 > Leah
 >
 > Leah McCluskey, MSW, LSW
 > Director, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review
 > Archdiocese of Chicago
 > 737 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 900
 > Chicago, Illinois 60611
 > Office: (312) 534-5205
 > Fax: (312) 751-5279
 > lmcccluskey@archchicago.org
 >
 >
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>>>> [REDACTED] 3/30/2011 1:10 PM >>>>

> Leah,
 >
 > Thank you for your kind response. This is so very difficult.
 >
 > I guess the next step is to sit down and tell you my story in more detail. Something I never wanted to do.
 >
 > Next week, Monday and Thursday are open for me. Let me know if there is a time that works for you.
 >
 > Thank you.
 >
 > Regards,

>

>

> [REDACTED]

>

> On Mar 30, 2011, at 11:42 AM, "Leah McCluskey"

> <lmcccluskey@archchicago.org> wrote:

>

>> Dear [REDACTED]

>>

>> Thank you so much for your e-mail and for sharing all that you have with me. I spoke with Jimmy Lago early this morning (he called me yesterday, but I was out of the office). Jimmy was very pleased to know that I had received an e-mail from you.

>>

>> I'm not certain how much Jimmy talked with you about the office of which I am a part and/or my role, so I'd like to provide you with some information.

>>

>> I am the Director of the Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review of the Archdiocese of Chicago. It is in this office where we receive all allegations of the sexual abuse of minors by clergy of this archdiocese. When someone comes forward to report his or her abuse by a priest or deacon, I ask if he or she would be willing to schedule a face to face meeting. At this meeting, the individual who has come forward is able to formalize his or her allegation of sexual abuse. Also present at the meeting is someone from our Office of Assistance Ministry who would be able to share information about different support services that the archdiocese may be able to provide to the individual who has come forward.

>>

>> [REDACTED], I'm not certain if this is too much information or too little. I am happy to answer any additional questions or concerns that you may have via e-mail or phone call. My direct phone number is (312) 534-5205.

>>

>> Thank you again for your e-mail. I look forward to hearing from you.

>>

>> Peace,

>>

>> Leah

>>

>>

>>

>> Leah McCluskey, MSW, LSW
>> Director, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review
>> Archdiocese of Chicago
>> 737 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 900
>> Chicago, Illinois 60611
>> Office: (312) 534-5205
>> Fax: (312) 751-5279
>> lmcccluskey@archchicago.org

>>

>>

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>>

>>

>>

>>>> [REDACTED] 3/29/2011 4:17 PM >>>

>> Ms. McCluskey,

>>

>> I met with Jimmy Lago today and shared the information below He
>> recommended I contact you as the next step. Please let me know what I
>> should do next.

>>

>> I have for the longest time fought labeling myself victim of priest
>> sexual abuse, and even now the term seems to broad when you consider
>> the range of the abuse and horror some of the victims have been
>> through.

>>

>> When I was a freshman at Quigley Preparatory Seminary South in
>> Chicago, I visited Fr. Russell Romano at the St. Barbara rectory with
>> another seminarian [REDACTED] While sitting on a couch in his room,
>> Romano placed his hand on my thigh and then moved it to cup and
>> squeezed my genitals. I pushed away and left the rectory without
>> saying anything to anyone.

>>

>> Fr. Romano tormented me throughout my years at Quigley. [REDACTED]
>> [REDACTED] I can't begin to imagine what
>> affect his behavior had on others. [REDACTED]

>>

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>> [REDACTED] I learned that Fr. Romano's name wasn't on
>> the original list of abusers, much to my dismay. [REDACTED]

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>> But this is my Church and I won't let these evil men win. I still want
>> a place in the Church and the opportunity to make it better, [REDACTED]
>> [REDACTED]
>> [REDACTED]
>> [REDACTED]
>> I pray telling my story will only help me to heal, and ultimately do
>> no harm to the Church I love so much.
>> [REDACTED]
>> [REDACTED]
>> <Leah McCluskey.vcf>
> <Leah McCluskey.vcf>

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office for the Protection of Children and Youth
Office of Assistance Ministry
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review
Safe Environment Office





P. O. Box 1979
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979
312-534-5254, general
312-751-8307, fax










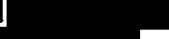


MEMORANDUM




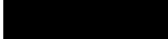

To: File – PFR - 238

From: Leah McCluskey, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review 

Re: Romano, Russell (Laicized priest) 

Date: April 27, 2011

On April 26, 2011, I received a phone call from a man who identified himself as . Initially,  sounded angry and stated that he was calling me at the direction of . When  stated that the reason for his call was to report abuse, I could hear the tone in his voice change from angry to emotional. I asked  if he was calling to report his own abuse or the abuse of someone else. Audibly upset,  stated that he was calling to report that he was sexually abused when he was in grammar school. When asked,  stated that the abuse by a priest took place at St. Leonard in Berwyn. At first when I asked  if he could identify the priest,  I then provided  with information about this office, the related process of receiving allegations of abuse, as well as the Office of Assistance Ministry.

I talked to  about my wish to determine if the accused is an active priest and the related concern of the safety of children if the accused is in ministry. As I began to talk about attempting to determine if the accused is alive or deceased,  identified the accused as Russell Romano. He  remarked that he is 50 years old now.  is aware that Mr. Romano is no longer a priest and told me that he thinks that Mr. Romano is married. Last  knew, Mr. Romano was living in Bolingbrook.

PFR – 238

Romano 

April 27, 2011

AOC 004539

I informed [REDACTED] that the archdiocese is aware that Mr. Romano is married. I told [REDACTED] about the list on the archdiocesan website of those priests who have been found to have at least one substantiated allegation of the sexual abuse of a minor and that Mr. Romano is on that list. [REDACTED] immediately asked about the [REDACTED] (if Romano was found to have abused them). I told [REDACTED] that we do not disclose the names of victims out of respect for their privacy and confidentiality. [REDACTED] expressed his understanding.

After providing [REDACTED] with some additional information about this process, he said that he did want to schedule a time to meet so that he may formalize his allegation against Mr. Romano.

Mrs. Ruth Robinson of the Office of Assistance Ministry and I are scheduled to meet with [REDACTED] on Friday, April 29th at 11am in our offices.

When asked, [REDACTED] provided his phone number [REDACTED] and his date of birth [REDACTED]

CC Ruth Robinson, Office of Assistance Ministry

PFR – 238

Romano, [REDACTED]

April 27, 2011

AOC 004540

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office for the Protection of Children and Youth
Office of Assistance Ministry
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review
Safe Environment Office




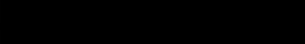
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Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979
312-534-5254, general
312-751-8307, fax




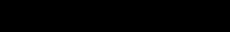
MEMORANDUM

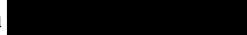
To: File – PFR - 238

From: Leah McCluskey, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review 

Re: Romano, Rev. Russell (Laicized) 

Date: August 27, 2010

Attached is a copy of the redacted report of  allegation of the sexual abuse of a minor against the former Rev. Russell Romano. The information redacted was unrelated to  allegation against the former Fr. Romano.

A copy of the attached will be given to Mr. Romano when  allegation is presented to him. Rev. Kenneth Budzikowski has arranged for us to meet with Mr. Romano about this matter on August 30, 2010 at 2:00 pm.

Attachment

Cc Rev. Kenneth Budzikowski, Vicar for Priests
Matt Hunnicutt, Office of Assistance Ministry

Bc: John O'Malley, Legal Services

AOC 004541

Victim Statement Abstract

This abstract replaces the transcript of Victim EL's statement, given to Leah McCluskey, Director of the Archdiocese of Chicago's Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review, on June 21, 2010, formalizing his allegation of abuse against Rev. Russell Romano. The alleged abuse consisted of one incident in which Fr. Romano provided Victim EL and some other boys with alcohol and showed Victim EL and other boys a pornographic movie. The abuse also consisted of several incidents of Fr. Romano kissing, hugging, and groping Victim EL. The alleged abuse occurred at Quigley Seminary South and St. Barbara's parish. At the time of the alleged abuse, Victim EL was between his freshman and junior years in high school, which was the mid-1980s.

P7R 238

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office for the Protection of Children and Youth
Office of Assistance Ministry
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review
Safe Environment Office



P O Box 1979
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979
312-534-5254, general
312-741-8307, fax



September 1, 2010

Mr. Russell Romano



Dear Mr. Romano,

I hope that this letter finds you doing well.

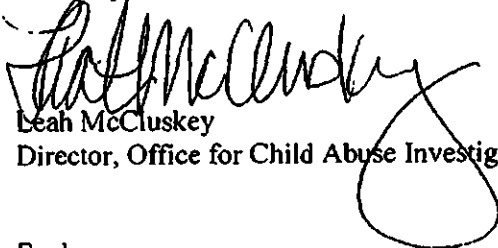
Enclosed you will find a draft report of our August 27, 2010 meeting where [redacted] [redacted] allegations of the sexual abuse of minor were presented to you. Thank you again for agreeing to meet with Rev. Kenneth Budzikowski and me.

Please review the enclosed draft report, make any changes necessary, and provide any additional response you wish to make. I ask that you return the draft to me with any changes in the envelope provided. I will then return a final report to you for your signature. Once all signatures are provided, a copy of the final report will be returned to you.

Mr. Romano, in the interest of expediting this process, I ask that you please return the enclosed report with your changes and any additional written response by September 16, 2010.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (312) 534-5205 or lmccuskey@archchicago.org.

Sincerely,



Leah McCluskey
Director, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review

Enclosure

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO


Office for the Protection of Children and Youth
Office of Assistance Ministry
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review
Safe Environment Office



P O Box 1979
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979
312-534-5254, general
312-751-8397, fax

MEMORANDUM

To: File – PFR- 238

From: Leah McCluskey, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review 

Re: **RESPONSE OF RUSSELL ROMANO (LAICIZED PRIEST) TO THE ALLEGATION OF THE SEXUAL ABUSE OF A MINOR MADE BY**
[REDACTED]

Date: September 1, 2010

Date of Meeting: August 30, 2010

Time of Meeting: 2:00 pm

Meeting Participants

Russell Romano

[REDACTED], wife of Russell Romano

Rev. Kenneth Budzikowski, Vicar for Priests

Leah McCluskey, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review

Meeting

Rev. Kenneth Budzikowski made arrangements for the August 30, 2010 meeting to take place at the Vicar for Priests Office.

After introductions took place, I presented Mr. Russell Romano with an envelope and informed him that it contained a copy of archdiocesan policies (*§1100 Clerical Sexual Abuse of Minors: Policies for Education, Prevention, Assistance to Victims and Procedures for Determination of Fitness for Ministry*), information on the professional investigation firm that may be used by CAIR during the continued investigation of this matter, and CAIR's statement on confidentiality. I also provided Mr. Romano with a copy of the report of [REDACTED] allegation of the sexual abuse of a minor against him.

In order to present the report of [REDACTED] allegation to him, I gave Mr. Romano the choice to read the entire transcript (of my meeting with [REDACTED] where he formalized his allegation against Mr. Romano) to himself, for me to read the entire transcript out loud, or for me to summarize the points of the transcript that reflect [REDACTED] allegations of sexual abuse against Mr. Romano.

PFR – 238
Romano, [REDACTED]
Page 1 of 2

AOC 004544

After conferring with his wife, Mr. Romano asked that I summarize points of the transcript that reflect [REDACTED] allegations of sexual abuse against him.

After reading the aforementioned summary of the transcript, Mr. Romano explained that the attorney that he has used previously "is now in private practice." As per Mr. Romano, he was to call his former attorney after our meeting in order to obtain a referral to another attorney who would assist him with this matter.

Mr. Romano then asked me what happens next. I informed Mr. Romano that I would type a draft report of our meeting and send it to him for his review, additions, and/or corrections. Mr. Romano agreed that I could mail communications to his home address. I then informed Mr. and Mrs. Romano that this matter would go before the Review Board and provided a verbal description of the Review Board process.

Mrs. Romano asked me if the related investigation of this matter was confidential. I referred Mr. and Mrs. Romano to the statement of confidentiality in the packet of information that I had given to Mr. Romano. I added that the only information concerning these matters released by the Archdiocese of Chicago to the public is the list of clerics on the archdiocesan website who have been found to have sexually abused at least one minor.

Fr. Budzikowski and I again thanked Mr. and Mrs. Romano for their time. It was agreed that Mr. Romano could contact Fr. Buzikowski or me with any questions or concerns.

Russell Romano

Date

Rev. Kenneth Budzikowski

Date

Leah McCluskey

Date

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

RECEIVED
JUN 23 2010
P78-238

Office of Legal Services

John C. O'Malley
Director
jomalley@archchicago.org



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO
OFFICE FOR CHILD ABUSE
INVESTIGATIONS AND REVIEW
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979
(312) 534-5379
Fax: (312) 534-5252

June 21, 2010

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Ms. Shauna Boliker
Chief, Criminal Prosecutions Bureau
State's Attorney of Cook County
2650 South California, Room 11D36
Chicago, Illinois 60608

RE: [REDACTED]
Our File #10 SC 041
Date of Birth: [REDACTED]
Date of Incident: 1985-1986
Location of Incident: Quigley Seminary South and
St. Barbara Rectory

Dear Ms. Boliker:

Please be advised that the Archdiocese of Chicago's Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review has received an allegation from [REDACTED] that he was sexually abused by Fr. Russell Romano in 1985-1986 when he was 15-16 years of age. The alleged abuse occurred at Quigley Seminary South School and St. Barbara Rectory. Fr. Romano is laicized.

If our office can provide any additional information, or be of any further help, please let me know.

Very truly yours,

John C. O'Malley
Director of Legal Services

JCOM:dd

cc: Ms. Leah McCluskey ✓
Mr. James A. Serritella
Ms. Dixie Peterson, DCFS Counsel

SCDirs\10SC041\SA Notification Re [REDACTED]

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO


Office for the Protection of Children and Youth
Office of Assistance Ministry
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review
Safe Environment Office




P O Box 1979
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979
312-534-5254, general
312-751-8307, fax


MEMORANDUM

To: File – PFR - 238

From: Leah McCluskey, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review 

Re: Romano, Russell (Laicized priest) 

Date: October 5, 2010

As a part of the investigation of the matter of  allegation of the sexual abuse of a minor against Russell Romano, the independent Review Board requested that the pastor(s) assigned to St. Barbara in Brookfield during the time period of alleged abuse be identified and spoken to about Mr. Romano.

According to Mr. Romano's vitae, he resided at St. Barbara while teaching at Quigley South from August 20, 1979 through August 25, 1980. The next entry on Mr. Romano's vitae was that he took a leave of absence from ministry in April 1986.

Information received from Archives identified Rev. Msgr. John B. Hayes as the pastor of St. Barbara from September 26, 1972 through September of 1979. According to Msgr. Hayes' vitae (see attached), he passed away on September 7, 1983. Archives also provided the information that Rev. Donald Joseph Hughes was the pastor of St. Barbara from October 1, 1979 through his death on October 30, 1990 (see attached vitae).

Attachments

AOC 004547

HAYES, John B.		Date of birth	Ordained	
		[REDACTED]	Apr. 7, 1934	
Nationality	English			
Date Appointed	Assignment	Charge	Date Left	
6-30-34	St. Mary of the Lake	Asst.	7-5-41	
7-5-41	St. Dorothy	Asst.	7-7-48	
7-7-48	St. Timothy	Asst.	6-29-53	
6-29-53	Our Lady Help of Christians	Asst.	2-19-55	
2-19-55	Our Lady of Solace	Asst.	1-8-58	
1-8-58	Our Lady of Solace	Pastor	1-8-63	Extraordinary Appointments
1-8-63	St. Joseph (Round Lake)	Pastor	9/26/72	Separation Court
9/26/72	Saint Barbara (Brookfield)	Pastor	9/79	12/16/63 Rt. Rev. Msgr
10/1/79	PASTOR EMERITUS			
	<i>Released 9/7/83</i>			



HUGHES, Donald Joseph

Date of birth

Ordained

May 3, 1955

Nationality

Irish-German-French

Date Appointed	Assignment	Charge	Date Left
7-7-55	St. Jerome	Asst.	6-66
6-66	St. Stephen Protomartyr (DesPlaines)	Asst.	6/13/73
6/13/73	St. John Brebeuf (Niles)	Asst.	9/79
10/1/79	St. Barbara, Brookfield	PASTOR	
6/25/87	<i>Pastors Review Board</i>	<i>Member</i>	
10/30/90	<i>Deceased</i>		



Extraordinary Appointments

Chaplain, Ill. Natl. Guard

FILE
COPY

PFR 238

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office for the Protection of Children and Youth
Office of Assistance Ministry
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review
Safe Environment Office



P. O. Box 1979
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979
312-534-5254, general
312-751-8307, fax

November 22, 2010

Cardinal Francis George, O.M.I.
Archbishop of Chicago
835 N. Rush Street
Chicago, Illinois 60611

Dear Cardinal George,

Please be advised that the independent Review Board met on November 20, 2010 and conducted a Review for Cause of [REDACTED] allegation of the sexual abuse of a minor against Russell Romano pursuant to Article §1104.10 of the Review Process for Continuation of Ministry. Mr. Romano is a laicized priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago.

The Review Board made the determination that in light of the information presented, there is reason to suspect that the accused did sexually abuse [REDACTED] when he was a minor.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (312) 534-5205.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leah McCluskey".

Leah McCluskey
Director, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review

From: Peggy Lavelle
To: Jennifer Hibben
Date: 6/11/2010 10:12 AM
Subject: Russell Romano
Attachments: Romano, Russell Lawrence (Rev.).PDF; Romano, Russell Lawrence (Rev.).PDF

Hi Jen,

Russell Romano seems to have left active ministry in 1991 and was laicized in 2009. He is still alive so his file is at the Chancellor's Office. We have scanned all the vita cards and vita questionnaires so his are attached to this email. Anything else you need can come from the Chancellor's Office. If Maryann would prefer to not send the original file or copy it herself, we can scan it and make it available to you.

Also, let me know if you have any trouble with the attachments. We need to get you trained on Trim. As soon as the IT training room is available again...

Peggy

-----< TRIM Record Information >-----

Record Number : ER/2010/3086
Title : Romano, Russell Lawrence (Rev.)

-----< TRIM Record Information >-----

Record Number : ER/2010/1834
Title : Romano, Russell Lawrence (Rev.)



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

(Please type all information)

Name Romano, Russell, Jr. Lawrence
(last) (first) (middle)

Born [redacted] Chicago Illinois St Philomena
(date) (city) (state) (parish)

Baptized ?
(date) (city) (state) (parish)

Ordained 05/09/73 Mundelein Illinois SML
(date) (city) (state) (location)

Ordaining Bishop John Cardinal Cody Chicago
(name) (diocese)

First Solemn Mass 05/20/73 Illinois St Hubert
(date) (city) (state) (parish)

Name of Father [redacted] Living Deceased

Name of Mother (maiden) [redacted] Living Deceased

Nationality Italian/German

Home Parish St. Hubert's, Hoffman Estates, Ill

Social Security Number [redacted]

Present Residence Brookfield Illinois St. Barbara 485-2900
(city) (state) (parish) (telephone)

In case of emergency notify:

1. [redacted] Sister
(city) (state) (relationship)

2. [redacted] [redacted]
(address) (telephone)

(city) (state) (zip code)

How is your health at the present time? Good Fair Poor

Comment: _____

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Schools Attended

Elementary	St Philomenia	Chicago	K-7
	<small>(name)</small>	<small>(city)</small>	<small>(state)</small> <small>(years)</small>
	St Theresa	Palatine	7-8 1961
	<small>(name)</small>	<small>(city)</small>	<small>(state)</small> <small>(years)</small>
Secondary	Quigley North	Chicago	9=12 1960
	<small>(name)</small>	<small>(city)</small>	<small>(state)</small> <small>(years)</small>
College	Niles College	Chicago	1-2
	<small>(name)</small>	<small>(city)</small>	<small>(state)</small> <small>(years)</small>
Philosophy	SML	Mundelein	1-2 1960
	<small>(name)</small>	<small>(city)</small>	<small>(state)</small> <small>(years)</small>
Theology	SML	"	1-4 1973
	<small>(name)</small>	<small>(city)</small>	<small>(state)</small> <small>(years)</small>
Post Graduate	Loyola University	Chicago	-84 1984
	<small>(name)</small>	<small>(city)</small>	<small>(state)</small> <small>(years)</small>
Degrees Earned	BA	Loyola	1969
	<small>(degree)</small>	<small>(college or university)</small>	<small>(year)</small>
	M. Div.	SML	1973
	<small>(degree)</small>	<small>(college or university)</small>	<small>(year)</small>
	M. Rel. Ed.	Loyola	1984
	<small>(degree)</small>	<small>(college or university)</small>	<small>(year)</small>
Degrees Honorary			
	<small>(degree)</small>	<small>(college or university)</small>	<small>(year)</small>
Works Published			
	<small>(degree)</small>	<small>(college or university)</small>	<small>(year)</small>
Works Published			
	<small>(title)</small>	<small>(date)</small>	<small>(publisher)</small>
	<small>(title)</small>	<small>(date)</small>	<small>(publisher)</small>
	<small>(title)</small>	<small>(date)</small>	<small>(publisher)</small>
Ecclesiastical Honors Received			
			<small>(date)</small>
			<small>(date)</small>

I am familiar with the following modern languages. Please indicate degree of fluency.

Language	Reading Proficiency			Speaking Proficiency			Proficiency to Celebrate Sacraments		
	High	Moderate	Slight	High	Moderate	Slight	High	Moderate	Slight
none	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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In addition to my official assignment(s) I am currently engaged in the following priestly activities: (I sample Cursillo, confessor to religious)

C.P.E. Loyola University Hospital

My personal preference with regard to PARISH work that would favor my assignment to:
(mark as #1, the kinds of parishes in which you have the deepest interest; mark as #2, those in which you have a moderate interest, mark as #3, those in which you have a little interest; mark as 0, those in which you have no interest):

- No Special Preference Suburban Parish Black Parish
- City Parish Bilingual Parish (specify language) _____ Changing Parish
- Hispanic Apostolate Parish Other (describe) _____

EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATION

Please describe any special experience, training, and talents that should be considered in making your assignments.

As of this date I have two units of CPE

Skills Inventory

Administration	What	When	Description*
<input type="checkbox"/>	Supervision	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Leadership Development	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Conflict Management	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Program Development	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Evaluation	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Planning and Goal Setting	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Financial Budgeting	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Office Management	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Written Communication	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Oral Communication	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Listening Skills	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Negotiating Skills	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Team-Building Skills	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Committee Skills	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Community Organization	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Grant Writing	_____	_____

*Describe in 20 letters or less

Pastoral and description of experience, education and/or certification

- Counseling
- Crisis Counseling
- Pre-Marital Counseling
- Home Visitation
- Inactive Visitation
- Community Visitation
- Liturgical & Homiletical
- Youth Ministry
- Young Adult Ministry
- Adult Education
- Spiritual Renewal Program
- Parish School Involvement (specify)
- Religious Education (specify)
- Hospital Visitation
- Nursing Home Visitation
- Parish Renewal
- New Member Recruitment
- Funerals
- Weddings

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Full Time Assignments (Chronological)

St Ann's	Lansing, Ill	assoc.	1973	1974
	(position)		(from)	(to)
St Leonard	Berwyn, Ill	assoc.	1974	1979
	(position)		(from)	(to)
Our Lady, Mother of the Church		assoc.	1979	1980
	(position)		(from)	(to)
Quigley Seminary South		Faculty	1980	1986
	(position)		(from)	(to)
Medical Leave			3/86	1/87
	(position)		(from)	(to)
Student/CPE			1/87...	
	(position)		(from)	(to)
	(position)		(from)	(to)
	(position)		(from)	(to)
	(position)		(from)	(to)
	(position)		(from)	(to)
	(position)		(from)	(to)

Administrative Assignments

National or U.S.C.C.				
	(position)		(from)	(to)
Diocesan				
	(position)		(from)	(to)
	(position)		(from)	(to)
	(position)		(from)	(to)
	(position)		(from)	(to)
	(position)		(from)	(to)

Other Assignments:

	(position)		(from)	(to)
	(position)		(from)	(to)
	(position)		(from)	(to)
	(position)		(from)	(to)
	(position)		(from)	(to)
	(position)		(from)	(to)

My present major, official assignment is ????????? No position
 at _____ since _____
(address) (month) (year)

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Military Service _____
(name of service) (position) (rank) (dates)

_____ (name of service) (position) (rank) (dates)

_____ (name of service) (position) (rank) (dates)

Hospitalization Insurance Blue Cross/Shield
(insuring company)

Automobile Liability Insurance Archdiocesan
(insuring company)

Last Will and Testament _____
(date of most recent copy) (place)

Do you have a copy in a sealed envelope on file in the Chancery? _____

Funeral Arrangements -----

Preferred Place of Burial _____

(Filed at the Chancery Office, together with a recent copy of the Will, should be a letter of instructions to be opened at the time of death.)

October 1987
Date

Russell Romson, Jr
Signature

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ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

(Please type all information)

NAME XXXXXXXX ROMANO, RUSSELL, JR. LAWRENCE
(last) (first) (middle)

BORN [REDACTED] CHICAGO ILLINOIS ST PHILOMENA
(date) (city) (state) (parish)

BAPTIZED 7/6/47 CHICAGO ILLINOIS ST PHILOMENA
(date) (city) (state) (parish)

ORDAINED 5/9/73 MUNDELEIN, ILL ST MARY OF THE LAKE SEMINARY
(date) (city) (state) (parish)

ORDAINING PRELATE JOHN CARDINAL CODY, CHICAGO
(name) (diocese)

FIRST SOLEMN MASS 5/20/73 HOFFMAN ESTATES, ILL ST HUBERT
(date) (city) (state) (parish)

NAME OF FATHER [REDACTED] Living
 Deceased

NAME OF MOTHER (maiden) [REDACTED] Living
 Deceased

NATIONALITY: ITALIAN-GERMAN

HOME PARISH: ST HUBERT

KNOWLEDGE OF MODERN LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH:

		Poor	Average	Fluent
Reading	<u>NONE</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Spoken	<u>NONE</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Confessional Work Only	<u>----</u>			

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY NOTIFY:

1. [REDACTED] PARENTS
(address) (city) (state) (zone) (relationship)

2. [REDACTED] SISTER
(city) (state) (zone) (relationship)

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SCHOOLS ATTENDED:

ELEMENTARY	ST PHILOMENA	CHICAGO	ILL	1952-58
	(name)	(city)	(state)	(years)
	ST THERESA	PALATINE	ILL	1958-61
	(name)	(city)	(state)	(years)
SECONDARY	QUIGLEY SEMINARY	CHICAGO	ILL	1961-65
	(name)	(city)	(state)	(years)
	(name)	(city)	(state)	(years)
COLLEGE	SML-NILES	NILES	ILL	1965-67
	(name)	(city)	(state)	(years)
PHILOSOPHY	SML	MUNDELEIN	ILL	1967-69
	(name)	(city)	(state)	(years)
THEOLOGY	SML	MUNDELEIN	ILL	1969-73
	(name)	(city)	(state)	(years)
POST GRADUATE	above			
	(name)	(city)	(state)	(years)
	(name)	(city)	(state)	(years)
	(name)	(city)	(state)	(years)

DEGREES EARNED	BA	LOYOLA UNIVERSITY	1969
	(degree)	(college or university)	(year)
	M.DIV.	SML-MUNDELEIN	1973
	(degree)	(college or university)	(year)
	(degree)	(college or university)	(year)

DEGREES HONORARY			
	(degree)	(college or university)	(year)

WORKS PUBLISHED			
	(title)	(date)	(publisher)
	(title)	(date)	(publisher)
	(title)	(date)	(publisher)

ECCLESIASTICAL HONORS RECEIVED:

	(date)
	(date)
	(date)

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ADMINISTRATIVE ASSIGNMENTS:

NATIONAL OR N.C.W.C.

	(position)	(from)	(to)
DIOCESAN	Quigley Prep Sem Sents - faculty	8/1/80	
	(position)	(from)	(to)
	(position)	(from)	(to)
	(position)	(from)	(to)
	(position)	(from)	(to)

PAROCHIAL AND CHAPLAIN ASSIGNMENTS: (Chronological)

ST RAYMOND DE PENAFORT	DEACON		
St. Ann, Lansing	Assistant	6/13/72 - 12/31/72	
St. Leonard, Berwyn	Associate	4/10/73 - 6/7/74	
O.L. Walker of the Church	Associate	6/7/74 - 6/11/79	
St. Barbara, Brookfield	Associate	6/11/79 - 8/25/80	
Left Active Ministry		8/25/80	
		10/1/91	
	(position)	(from)	(to)
	(position)	(from)	(to)
	(position)	(from)	(to)
	(position)	(from)	(to)
	(position)	(from)	(to)

OTHER ASSIGNMENTS: (e.g. Moderator of diocesan organizations, etc.)			
Cluster Relations Director		8/20/79	
	(position)	(from)	(to)
	(position)	(from)	(to)
	(position)	(from)	(to)
	(position)	(from)	(to)
	(position)	(from)	(to)
	(position)	(from)	(to)

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MILITARY SERVICE

(name of service)	(position)	(rank)	(dates)
(name of service)	(position)	(rank)	(dates)
(name of service)	(position)	(rank)	(dates)

HOSPITALIZATION INSURANCE ARCHDIOCESAN-BLUE CROSS, BLUE SHIELD
 (insuring company)

AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY INSURANCE STATE FARM
 (insuring company)

LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT
 (date of most recent copy) (place)

Do you have a copy in a sealed envelope on file in the Chancery? _____

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

PREFERRED PLACE OF BURIAL _____

(Filed at the Chancery Office, together with a recent copy of the Will, should be a letter of instructions to be opened at the time of death.)

DATE 2/24/1973

Rev. Russell Lemmon, Jr.
 SIGNATURE

This document has been scanned by the Archdiocese of Chicago Archives & Records Center

ROMANO, Rev. Russell Lawrence		Date of birth	Ordained
		[REDACTED]	5/9/73
Nationality Italian/German			
Date Appointed	Assignment	Charge	Date Left
5/9/73	Saint Ann (Lansing)	Assistant	6/74
6/12/74	St. Leonard - Berwyn	Asst.	6/79
6/11/79	Our Lady Mother of the Church	Associate	8/80
8/80	Quigley Prep Seminary S. with residence at St. Barbara, Brookfield	faculty m.	
10/1/91 5-4-09	<i>Left active ministry Laicized</i>		
			8/78
			Cluster Vocation Dir.



Russell L. Romano
Extraordinary Appointments
Cluster Vocation Dir.

This document has been scanned by the Archdiocese of Chicago
Archives & Records Center

Jennifer Hibben - Re: New allegation

From: Jennifer Hibben
To: Robinson, Ruth
Date: 6/11/2010 9:17 AM
Subject: Re: New allegation
Attachments:

Ruth,

After looking in radar it appears this priest has 11 other allegations against him. It also appears to be Leah's case. Since she'll be back on Tuesday I'll have her give him a call. If you speak with him again you could give him that information. I thought it might be best if I don't involve myself since he'll be working with Leah. Thanks again!

Jen

Jennifer Hibben
Assistant to the Director
Office of Child Abuse Investigations & Review
737 N Michigan Ave.
Ste. 900
Chicago, IL 60611
312-534-8793
312-751-5279 (fax)
jhibben@archchicago.org

>>> Ruth Robinson 6/9/2010 5:33 PM >>>
Attached is a new allegation that I received this afternoon.

Thanks,
Ruth

Ruth Robinson
Assistant Director
Office of Assistance Ministry
Archdiocese of Chicago
312-534-8256

file://C:\Documents%20and%20Settings\jhibben\Local%20Settings\Temp\XPGrpWise\4C... 6/11/2010

AOC 004562

From: Leah McCluskey
To: Radney, Harvey
Date: 6/22/2010 2:58 PM
Subject: Request
Attachments: Leah McCluskey.vcf

Hi Harvey,

Could you please complete a background check on the following individual

[REDACTED]
DOB - [REDACTED]
Address - [REDACTED]
Cell Phone # - [REDACTED]
E-mail - [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] works for the [REDACTED]

If it is possible, could I please have it by July 2nd?

Thank you.

Leah

Leah McCluskey, MSW, LSW
Director, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review
Archdiocese of Chicago
737 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 900
Chicago, Illinois 60611
Office: (312) 534-5205
Fax: (312) 751-5279
lmcluskey@archchicago.org

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**Quigley
Seminary
South**

Russ Romano.

OFFICE OF THE RECTOR

7740 South Western Avenue • Chicago, Illinois 60620-5867 • 312-436-4200

January 11, 1987

RECEIVED

JUL 08 2010

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO
OFFICE FOR CHILD ABUSE
INVESTIGATIONS AND REVIEW

Rev. Thomas F. Ventura
Vicar for Priests
800 North Clark
Room 311
Chicago, IL 60611

Dear Tom,

After speaking with you the other day regarding Russ Romano's return, I shared what we had talked about with Joe Binder and Dom Grassi. In talking about different scenarios and situations, we felt that from our perspective some points need to be clarified for us and possibly for Russ.

Our concerns were further heightened yesterday when Dom Grassi asked Ed Mikolajczyk if he had heard from Russ lately, and Ed said that he had found out from [REDACTED] a freshman at Niles, that Russ was in town over the holidays. Russ had had dinner at the [REDACTED] home and [REDACTED] told Ed that he was uncomfortable around Russ, which is understandable. [REDACTED] also mentioned to Ed that Russ was under some sort of contract that prohibited him from seeing his parents.

Having things pretty calmed down and back to normal here at Quigley, Joe, Dom, and I are concerned for Quigley, for our current and former students, and for Russ in regards to his return to the area.

Some Questions that we have:

- What is the story that Russ is telling people?
- Should he be discussing his contract at all? If so, with whom?
- Is there a clear policy on whom Russ can see? Where he can go? With whose permission? Should there be such a policy?
- Should we be informed of such a policy?
- Would it be best if we sat down with Russ and went over concerns?
- What should we report to the Vicar of Priests? We don't want to be snitches, but most young men involved, even though they've left Quigley, will come to us rather than others.
- What should Bob McLaughlin know?
- What should we know?
- How should we handle faculty and students wanting to get in touch with Russ? What should and shouldn't he tell them?

AOC 004564

At present we find ourselves kind of in the dark about Russ. I guess we would find it helpful to have a little more clarity in terms of guidelines and parameters for him. To put it honestly, we're somewhat scared and wary at this moment, and feel we must be very cautious for the good of our institution and our young men. We have serious questions as to whether Russ should be allowed to come to Qigley at all or be in contact with any of our students.

I'll be awaiting a response, Tom, as to how we should proceed. Thanks so much for all your help and support through this entire affair. Hopefully we're almost home free.

In His Priesthood,



Very Rev. John G. Klein
Rector

CONFIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM FOR RECTORS ONLY

RE: Rev. Russell Romano
DATE: April 26, 1986

RECEIVED

JUL 08 2010

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO
OFFICE FOR CHILD ABUSE
INVESTIGATIONS AND REVIEW

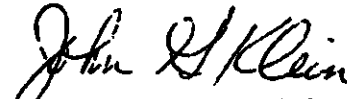
On March 19, 1986, Mr. Joseph Binder, a counselor at Quigley Seminary South, reported to me a possible case of abuse by Rev. Russell Romano with [REDACTED] one of our students. We reported this incident to the Department of Children and Family Services, to Rev. Thomas Ventura, Vicar for Priests for the Archdiocese of Chicago, and Mr. James Serritella, legal counsel for the Archdiocese. Mr. Binder and I visited [REDACTED] mother to explain what had happened and to offer counseling for her and her son. Steps were taken to remove Fr. Romano from Quigley [REDACTED]

We also began some preliminary investigation to determine if there were other young men that were possible victims of Fr. Romano. Of the 5 young men we spoke with besides [REDACTED] we discovered 2 more who were victims, [REDACTED]. We again reported these new cases to the Department of Children and Family services, but since [REDACTED] were over 18 there were no written reports. We went to the homes of both of the young men and spoke with their parents, again offering counseling for them and their sons. In all 3 cases, there was touching in the genital area, but no penetration or force.

We expanded our investigation and spoke with 24 young men, at Quigley South and at Niles College, who had spent some time with Fr. Romano. We ascertained that there was no sexual misconduct with any of these young men nor could they name any other young men who they had any reason to believe had any incidents with Fr. Romano. We offered counseling to these young men and continue to keep in contact with them.

We finished speaking with these young men on April 18, 1986. Having spoken with 30 young men in all, we felt it was reasonable to conclude that there were no other individuals or incidents that needed further investigation.

Respectfully submitted,


Very Rev. John G. Klein
Rector

AOC 004566



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

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JUL 08 2010

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO
OFFICE FOR CHILD ABUSE
INVESTIGATIONS AND REVIEW

April 25, 1986

CONFIDENTIAL

Vicar for Priests
800 North Clark Street, Suite 311
Chicago, Illinois 60611
Off: (312) 642-1837
Res: (312) 528-0540

TO: File
FROM: Fr. Ventura
RE: Fr. Russel Romano '73

1. On 3-24-86 Fr. John Klein, rector of Quigley South, phoned me concerning Russ Romano, a faculty member. In March 1985, one year ago, student [redacted] expressed to a school counselor, his concerns about Fr. Romano's behavior to him, especially inappropriate hugs and kisses. K. confronted R. [redacted] K. arranged a plan of monthly supervisory meetings with R. to monitor the situation. Things seemed to improve.

2. However, now school counselor Joe Binder has informed K. that students [redacted] and [redacted] expressed concern about inappropriate behavior by R. specifically serving beer to minors, showing pornographic movies, hugs and kisses, and being in the same bed with [redacted] who stayed overnight in R's quarters at St. Barbara Rectory, Brookfield. [redacted] had slept at the rectory but experienced no difficulty. [redacted] indicated that R. had fondled and touched him. The young men added that R. would sometimes phone them, inviting them to come to the rectory at night. At such times he seems to have been drinking.

[redacted]

[redacted] The original call was to the DCFS Hotline (800-252-2873).

4. On 3-25-86 K. and I met with R. to discuss these allegations, his response, and the course of action to be pursued by Quigley South and the Archdiocese. The following actions were taken:

[redacted]

- On 3-25-86 R. was placed under a canonical directive instructing him to cease further contacts with persons under the age of 18. On 4-11-86 this was made more specific and signed by R. and by myself. The penalty for violation of this directive is ipso facto liability to suspension.

5. On 3-26-86 I informed Fr. Don Hughes, pastor of St. Barbara, Brookfield, about the situation. He said that he had been concerned about R. entertaining Quigley students in his quarters. He had confronted him about it, but was unable to take

further action because he lacked any firm evidence of improper activities. [REDACTED]

6. Father Klein and Mr. Binder conducted an investigation at Quigley to determine if any other students had experienced problems with R. They contacted approximately 30 students at Quigley South and at Niles College. Some had been present when beer was served and when movies were shown. [REDACTED] a Niles sophomore, reported that R. had fondled him in 1984. [REDACTED] a Niles freshman, reported that he had rebuffed overtures from R. but on one occasion while sleeping on a couch in R's room he awoke in the middle of the night to find R. touching his crotch. Father Klein and Mr. Binder contacted the parents of [REDACTED] about these matters. The investigation revealed no other cases.

7. I contacted the pastors of the parishes at which R. had served prior to his assignment to Quigley: Msgr. John Farrell and Fr. Bill Martin of St. Leonard, Berwyn and Fr. Peter Hayes of Our Lady Mother of the Church, Chicago to learn whether there had been any previous concerns about R's activities.

- Farrell and Martin reported that during R's 5 years he was a hard worker, good preacher, somewhat controversial regarding liberal vs conservative parish issues. He seldom ate meals with the other priests in the rectory and became increasingly isolated. However he never had young people in his rooms and there were no complaints or concerns about any suspicious or inappropriate activities.

- Hayes reported that R. was there one year and had his heart set on teaching at Quigley. He was a strange person with whom to live because he never ate meals with the priests and stayed in his room. A couple of parents complained that R. would phone their teenage sons at night and invite them to a movie. H. told them to simply instruct their sons to say No, which they did. He began to host older teenage boys in his room and there were indications that he sometimes served beer. But there were no indications or complaints about inappropriate activity beyond the beer.

RECEIVED

JUL 08 2010



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO
OFFICE FOR CHILD ABUSE
INVESTIGATIONS AND REVIEW

CONFIDENTIAL

Vicar for Priests
800 North Clark Street, Suite 311
Chicago, Illinois 60611
Off: (312) 642-1837
Res: (312) 528-0540

TO: Chancellor's file
FROM: Vicar for Priests
RE: Rev. Russell Romano '73

3-24-86: Rector of Quigley Seminary South reported concern from J. Binder, school counselor, about inappropriate behavior by R. with students [REDACTED]. A report was made to Ms. Lightfoot of the Department of Children and Family Services of Illinois.

3-25-86: Meeting of the Rector, Fr. Romano, and the Vicar for Priests to discuss the allegations, and R's response. The following actions were taken:

- R. Terminated his work at Quigley South.

- [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]

- R. was placed under a canonical mandate to cease further contacts with persons under age 18.

- The Quigley faculty contacted the parents of the boys involved. They also conducted a discrete investigation of approximately 30 present and past Quigley South students to determine whether any other boys had been affected. No other cases surfaced.

- [REDACTED]

AOC 004569

From: Leah McCluskey
To: Budzikowski, Kenneth
Date: 8/6/2010 11:29 AM
Subject: Re: Russell Romano
Attachments: Leah McCluskey.vcf

Hi Fr. Budzikowski,

Great. Then I will only bring a copy for Mr. Romano.

Thank you!

Leah

Leah McCluskey, MSW, LSW
Director, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review
Archdiocese of Chicago
737 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 900
Chicago, Illinois 60611
Office: (312) 534-5205
Fax: (312) 751-5279
lmcccluskey@archchicago.org

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>>> Kenneth Budzikowski 8/6/2010 11:21 AM >>>

Hi Leah,

Mr. Romano did not seem to indicate his attorney would be present, but I believe his wife will be with him.

Thanks,

Fr. Ken

Rev. Kenneth A. Budzikowski
Vicar for Priests
Archdiocese of Chicago
980 N. Michigan, Suite 1525
Chicago, IL 60611
Phone: 312/534-1837
Fax: 312/642-4933
kbudzikowski@archchicago.org

>>> Leah McCluskey 8/6/2010 11:08 AM >>>

Hello Fr. Budzikowski,

Thank you for your e-mail with regard to Mr. Romano. The date and time that you and Mr. Romano discussed work for me. I will plan on being at your office by 1:45p or so and will bring a copy of the report of [REDACTED] allegation for Mr. Romano. Do you know if Mr. Romano will have an attorney present with him at the meeting? If so, I will bring copies of information for Mr. Romano's attorney as well.

Please do not provide Mr. Romano with copies of the report of [REDACTED] allegation against him prior to our meeting. If Mr. Romano requests a copy, feel free to let him know that I will bring the information to our August 30th meeting.

Thank you.

Leah

Leah McCluskey, MSW, LSW
Director, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review
Archdiocese of Chicago
737 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 900
Chicago, Illinois 60611
Office: (312) 534-5205
Fax: (312) 751-5279
lmcluskey@archchicago.org

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>>> Kenneth Budzikowski 8/4/2010 10:59 AM >>>
Hi Leah,

Fr. Russ Romano called today and said he would be available on Monday, August 30, at 2 PM, to have the new allegation read to him. He indicated that his wife would be present, also. He asked who would be present for the reading and what, if any, action he would be required to take at that time.

I hope the time and date indicated work for you as it has been difficult setting up a convenient time with Russell.

Rev. Kenneth A. Budzikowski
Vicar for Priests
Archdiocese of Chicago
980 N. Michigan, Suite 1525
Chicago, IL 60611
Phone: 312/534-1837
Fax: 312/642-4933
kbudzikowski@archchicago.org


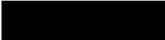
ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO


Office for the Protection of Children and Youth
Office of Assistance Ministry
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review
Safe Environment Office



P O Box 1979
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979
312-751-5254, general
312-751-8307, fax

Memorandum

To: Rev Vincent Costello
From: Ambi Jeffnes, Secretary, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review 
Date: 1/11/2008
Re: Response of Rev. Romano  Allegation

Please review the enclosed documentation regarding the response of Rev. Russell Lawrence Romano [resigned] /  allegation. Please sign the document and return to Leah McCluskey at your earliest convenience. If you have any questions, please contact Leah McCluskey at 312-751-5205

Thank you

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO


Office for the Protection of Children and Youth
Office of Assistance Ministry
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review
Safe Environment Office




P O Box 1979
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979
312-751-5388
312-751-8307, fax

MEMORANDUM

To: File – PFR-238

From: Leah McCluskey, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review 


Re: **RESPONSE OF REV. RUSSELL LAWRENCE ROMANO [RESIGNED]
TO THE ALLEGATION OF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT MADE BY** 

Date: January 4, 2008


Date of Meeting: January 4, 2008

Time of Meeting: 11:00 am

Present at Meeting

Mr. Russell Romano
, Mr. Romano's wife
Rev. Vincent Costello, Vicar for Priests
Ms. Leah McCluskey, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review

Meeting

Upon my arrival to the Vicar for Priests Office for the 11:00 am scheduled meeting, there was a man and woman in the waiting area. Once I was in the office and spoke with Rev. Vincent Costello, he informed me that the two in the waiting area were Mr. Russell Romano and his wife . Fr. Costello invited Mr. and Mrs. Romano into the office and escorted them into the conference room where we were all to meet.

After introductions were made, Fr. Costello and I continued by thanking Mr. Romano and his wife for agreeing to meet with us. I verbally provided information on the Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review as well as information about the role and functioning of the independent Review Board. I also provided Mr. Romano with an envelope which contained information on the Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review as well as a copy of §1100 *Clerical Sexual Abuse of Minors: Policies for Education, Prevention, Assistance to Victims and Procedures for Determination of Fitness for Ministry*.

I asked Mr. and Mrs. Romano if either of them had any questions for either Fr. Costello or myself. Mr. Romano indicated that he did not have any questions for us.

I then handed Mr. Romano a copy of the report of [redacted] allegation of the sexual abuse of a minor against him. Mr. Romano had mentioned the possibility of civil attorney Patrick Reardon working on this matter with him. I told Mr. Romano that when and if he decided to work with Mr. Reardon, to please let me know and I would send copies of all information to him as well.

I proceeded by reading [redacted] allegation against Mr. Romano in its entirety. When asked, Mr. Romano stated that he did not wish to make any response to [redacted] allegation at this time.

I told Mr. Romano that I would type up a draft report of the January 4th meeting and then offered to send it to him directly or in care of his attorney. Mr. Romano stated that he has not yet retained Mr. Reardon as his attorney. He added that when he contacts Mr. Reardon and if he does have the time to work with him, he [Mr. Romano] would notify Fr. Costello or me. At that time, I would then send a draft report of the January 4th meeting to Mr. Romano in care of Mr. Reardon.

When asked by Fr. Costello and myself, Mr. and Mrs. Romano accepted our offer to leave the conference room in order to give them some time alone. Approximately 10 minutes later, Mr. and Mrs. Romano emerged from the conference room and prepared to leave. At this time, Mr. Romano stated that he would continue to be in contact with Fr. Costello and me in regards to this matter through his civil attorney.

Mr. Russell Romano

Date



Leah McCluskey, Director

Date 1/7/08

Rev. Vincent Costello, Vicar for Priests

Date

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office for the Protection of Children and Youth
Office of Assistance Ministry
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review
Safe Environment Office



P O Box 1979
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979
312-751-5254, general
312-751-8307, fax

June 26, 2008

FILE COPY

[REDACTED]
C/o Jeff Anderson
Jeff Anderson & Associates
E-1000 First National Bank Bldg.
332 Minnesota Street
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

Dear [REDACTED]

Please be advised that the independent Review Board met on May 31, 2008 and conducted a Review for Cause of your allegation of sexual misconduct against the former Rev. Russell Romano pursuant to Article §1104.10 of the Review Process for Continuation of Ministry. Mr. Romano is a resigned priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago.

At a Review for Cause the Review Board determines, based on the information that has been gathered and made available to it, whether there is reasonable cause to suspect that the accused priest engaged in the sexual misconduct of a minor.

In the Review for Cause of this matter on May 31st, the Board determined that there is reason to suspect that you were sexually abused by the former Fr. Romano. Cardinal George has accepted the Board's determination.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at any time. I may be reached at [312] 867-8793. Also, please know that the staff of the Office of Assistance Ministry continues to be available to you and may be reached at [312] 751-8267.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leah McCluskey".

Leah McCluskey
Director, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review

Cc Matt Hunnicutt, Office of Assistance Ministry

Bcc: John O'Malley
James Serritella

AOC 004575

JUN 25 2008

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of the Archbishop


 ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO
 OFFICE FOR CHILD ABUSE
 INVESTIGATIONS AND REVIEW
 155 E. Superior St.
 Chicago, Illinois 60611

June 24, 2008

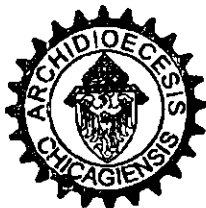
Ms. Leah McCluskey
 Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review
 P.O. Box 1979
 Chicago, IL 60690-1979

Dear Ms. McCluskey,

I am writing to you in order to formalize my handwritten note of June 4, 2008 in response to your letter of June 3, 2008, regarding the matter of **Reverend Russell Romano**, a priest ordained for the Archdiocese of Chicago who resigned from priestly ministry a number of years ago, and the allegations of sexual misconduct that were made against him by [REDACTED]. This matter was discussed in a Review for Cause by the independent Review Board at their meeting of May 31, 2008.

I accept the Review Board's determination that there is reason to suspect that the alleged abuse occurred and believe that a further penal process is warranted. Since this is a matter that must be referred to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, I will forward the case to that Congregation and ask for their guidance.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.



Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Francis Cardinal George".

Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I.
 Archbishop of Chicago

Rev. Richard Scuderi
 Ecclesiastical Notary

cc: Very Reverend John F. Canary, Vicar General
 Rev. Daniel A. Smilanic, Cardinal's Delegate
 Rev. Patrick R. Lagges, Judicial Vicar/Vicar for Canonical Services
 Reverend Edward D. Grace, Vicar for Priests
 Mr. Matt Hunnicutt, Assistance Minister
 Mr. Jimmy Lago, Chancellor
 Mr. John C. O'Malley, Director of Legal Services

SUMMARY OF ALLEGATION/RESPONSE/INVESTIGATION

Name of Alleged Victim

[REDACTED]

Name of Accused

Russell Romano (Laicized priest)

Summary of Allegation

The Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review (CAIR) was first made known of [REDACTED] allegation of the sexual abuse of a minor against Russell Romano on June 9, 2010 through [REDACTED] [REDACTED] formalized his allegation on June 21, 2010.

[REDACTED] is 40 years old, resides in Chicago with his wife and children and is a [REDACTED]. He [REDACTED] attended [REDACTED] Quigley South for high school, [REDACTED]. He met Russell Romano while attended Quigley South.

[REDACTED] spoke of three incidents of alleged sexual abuse by Romano. The first incident took place at Quigley, where Romano brought [REDACTED] into a closet at Quigley and hugged and held him close. The second incident took place in the rectory at St. Barbara's in Brookfield. Romano kissed and touched [REDACTED] under his shirt on his chest and put his hands down [REDACTED] pants. The third incident took place in the rectory at St. Barbara's, which was the same as second incident. The same day, Romano also gave [REDACTED] and some of his classmates liquor, asked them all to take their pants down to see who had the longest penis [REDACTED] and his classmates did not do this), and showed them a pornography video.

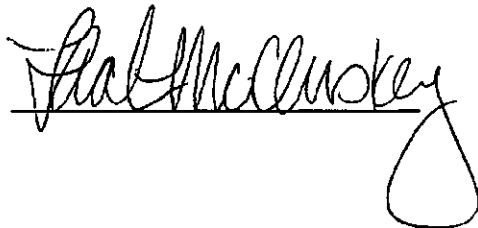
Summary of Response

This matter was presented to Mr. Romano (who was accompanied by his wife [REDACTED]) on August 30, 2010. After being presented the allegation, Romano only responded by saying that he needed to speak with his attorney.

Summary of Investigation

To date, Hillard Heintze has not been asked to contribute to the investigation of this matter.

Signature: _____



Date: _____

9/3/10

PFR - 238
[REDACTED] Romano Summary
September 3, 2010
Page 1 of 1

SUMMARY TIME LINE OF ALLEGATION

	ACCUSED	ACCUSER
Name:	Russell Romano	[REDACTED]
Address:	Bolingbrook, IL	Chicago, IL
Date of Birth:	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Current age:	63	40
Name of civil attorney:	unknown	N/A

Date of Ordination [of accused]: 5/9/73
Location: Mundelein
Age at ordination: 26
Assignment location of accused: N/A
Status of accused: Laicized
Name of canonical advocate: N/A

Date allegation received: 6/9/10
Date allegation formalized: 6/21/10
Date of initial incident of alleged abuse: 1985
Date of last incident of alleged abuse: 1986
Approximate number of incidents of alleged abuse: three

Brief summary of alleged abuse: first incident in closet [REDACTED], Romano hugging and holding [REDACTED] close; second incident in rectory, Romano kissing and touching [REDACTED] under shirt on chest and put hands down [REDACTED] pants; third incident in rectory, same as second including pornography and liquor

Brief summary and date of response from accused: 8/27/10; allegation presented to Romano, who was accompanied by his wife; Romano has yet to respond

Stage of disposition by Review Board: Initial Review

Additional allegations made by accuser: Yes; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] related investigation is ongoing

Summary Time Line
Romano, Russell
September 2, 2010
Page 2 of 13

ADDITIONAL ALLEGATIONS AGAINST ACCUSED

Name of accuser: [REDACTED]

Date of birth:

Current age:

Name of civil attorney:

Date allegation received: 3/1/85

Date allegation formalized:

Date of initial incident of alleged abuse: 1985

Date of last incident of alleged abuse:

Approximate number of incidents of alleged abuse:

Brief summary of alleged abuse: inappropriate hugs and kisses

Brief summary and date of response from accused:

Stage of disposition by Review Board: N/A; substantiated by Administrative Review

Additional allegations made by accuser: None

ADDITIONAL ALLEGATIONS AGAINST ACCUSED

Name of accuser: [REDACTED]

Date of birth:

Current age:

Name of civil attorney:

Date allegation received: 4/25/86

Date allegation formalized:

Date of initial incident of alleged abuse: 1986

Date of last incident of alleged abuse:

Approximate number of incidents of alleged abuse:

Brief summary of alleged abuse: inappropriate behavior, specifically serving beer to minors, showing porn movies, hugs and kisses, students sleeping at rectory

Brief summary and date of response from accused:

Stage of disposition by Review Board: N/A; substantiated by Administrative Review

Additional allegations made by accuser: None

ADDITIONAL ALLEGATIONS AGAINST ACCUSED

Name of accuser: [REDACTED]

Date of birth:

Current age:

Name of civil attorney: N/A

Date allegation received: 4/25/86

Date allegation formalized:

Date of initial incident of alleged abuse: 1986

Date of last incident of alleged abuse:

Approximate number of incidents of alleged abuse:

Brief summary of alleged abuse: inappropriate behavior, specifically serving beer to minors, showing porn movies, hugs & kisses and being in the same bed with [REDACTED] who stayed overnight in Romano's quarters [REDACTED] indicated that Romano fondled and touched him

Brief summary and date of response from accused:

Stage of disposition by Review Board: N/A; substantiated by Administrative Review

Additional allegations made by accuser: None

ADDITIONAL ALLEGATIONS AGAINST ACCUSED

Name of accuser: [REDACTED]

Date of birth:

Current age:

Name of civil attorney:

Date allegation received: 4/25/86

Date allegation formalized:

Date of initial incident of alleged abuse: 1986

Date of last incident of alleged abuse:

Approximate number of incidents of alleged abuse:

Brief summary of alleged abuse: Romano made inappropriate gestures but [REDACTED] reported he was outraged and rejected them

Brief summary and date of response from accused:

Stage of disposition by Review Board: N/A; substantiated by Administrative Review

Additional allegations made by accuser: None

ADDITIONAL ALLEGATIONS AGAINST ACCUSED

Name of accuser: [REDACTED]

Date of birth:

Current age:

Name of civil attorney:

Date allegation received: 4/25/86

Date allegation formalized:

Date of initial incident of alleged abuse: 1986

Date of last incident of alleged abuse:

Approximate number of incidents of alleged abuse:

Brief summary of alleged abuse: inappropriate behavior, specifically serving beer to minors, showing porn movies, hugs and kisses, students sleeping at rectory

Brief summary and date of response from accused:

Stage of disposition by Review Board: N/A; substantiated by Administrative Review

Additional allegations made by accuser: None

ADDITIONAL ALLEGATIONS AGAINST ACCUSED

Name of accuser: [REDACTED]

Date of birth:

Current age:

Name of civil attorney:

Date allegation received: 4/25/86

Date allegation formalized:

Date of initial incident of alleged abuse: 1986

Date of last incident of alleged abuse:

Approximate number of incidents of alleged abuse:

Brief summary of alleged abuse: inappropriate behavior, specifically serving beer to minors, showing porn movies, hugs and kisses, students sleeping at rectory

Brief summary and date of response from accused:

Stage of disposition by Review Board: N/A; substantiated by Administrative Review

Additional allegations made by accuser: None

Summary Time Line
Romano, Russell
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ADDITIONAL ALLEGATIONS AGAINST ACCUSED

Name of accuser: [REDACTED]

Date of birth:

Current age:

Name of civil attorney:

Date allegation received: 3/13/04

Date allegation formalized:

Date of initial incident of alleged abuse: 1982

Date of last incident of alleged abuse: 1986

Approximate number of incidents of alleged abuse: more than one

Brief summary of alleged abuse: touching, inappropriate gestures or advances

Brief summary and date of response from accused:

Stage of disposition by Review Board: N/A; [REDACTED] did not formalize allegation and therefore, not presented to Review Board

Additional allegations made by accuser: None

ADDITIONAL ALLEGATIONS AGAINST ACCUSED

Name of accuser: [REDACTED]

Date of birth:

Current age:

Name of civil attorney:

Date allegation received: 2/27/07

Date allegation formalized:

Date of initial incident of alleged abuse:

Date of last incident of alleged abuse:

Approximate number of incidents of alleged abuse:

Brief summary of alleged abuse: third-party allegation by an unidentified adult male; stated that [REDACTED] disclosed that Romano showed [REDACTED] and another male student pornographic materials in the rectory

Brief summary and date of response from accused:

Stage of disposition by Review Board: N/A; [REDACTED] did not formalize allegation and therefore, not presented to Review Board

Additional allegations made by accuser: None

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ADDITIONAL ALLEGATIONS AGAINST ACCUSED

Name of accuser: [REDACTED]

Date of birth: [REDACTED]

Current age: 50

Name of civil attorney: Jeff Anderson

Date allegation received: 8/23/07

Date allegation formalized: 9/21/07

Date of initial incident of alleged abuse: 1975

Date of last incident of alleged abuse: 1979

Approximate number of incidents of alleged abuse: more than one

Brief summary of alleged abuse: Romano took [REDACTED] to the drive-in to see a pornographic movie; provided him alcohol on this and numerous other occasions; slept overnight in rectory after being given alcohol by Romano; [REDACTED] woke up naked, penis hurting, next to Romano who was also naked; one other incident occurred when [REDACTED] 18 or over

Brief summary and date of response from accused: 10/2/07

Stage of disposition by Review Board: 6/08; concluded, reasonable cause to suspect that the alleged misconduct occurred

Additional allegations made by accuser: None

ADDITIONAL ALLEGATIONS AGAINST ACCUSED

Name of accuser: [REDACTED]

Date of birth: [REDACTED]

Current age: 45

Name of civil attorney: Jeff Anderson

Date allegation received: 8/23/07

Date allegation formalized: 11/2/07

Date of initial incident of alleged abuse: summer of 1980

Date of last incident of alleged abuse:

Approximate number of incidents of alleged abuse: three

Brief summary of alleged abuse: Romano got into [REDACTED] bed, kissed him, rubbed his chest, and performed oral sex on him- [REDACTED] continually told Romano to stop; second incident, Romano got into bed between [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] [REDACTED] heard [REDACTED] tell Romano to stop; Romano got in bed between [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] rubbed his chest and masturbated him until [REDACTED] came into the room [REDACTED]; Romano was drunk during all three incidents

Brief summary and date of response from accused: 1/4/08; [REDACTED] allegation included his request for an apology from Romano; after hearing report of [REDACTED] allegation read to Romano and his wife [REDACTED], [REDACTED] asked how an apology would be done (facilitated)

Stage of disposition by Review Board: 6/08; concluded, reasonable cause to suspect that the alleged misconduct occurred

Additional allegations made by accuser: None

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ADDITIONAL ALLEGATIONS AGAINST ACCUSED

Name of accuser: [REDACTED]

Date of birth: [REDACTED]

Current age: 46

Name of civil attorney: Jeff Anderson

Date allegation received: 8/23/07

Date allegation formalized: 9/27/07

Date of initial incident of alleged abuse: 1978

Date of last incident of alleged abuse: 1981

Approximate number of incidents of alleged abuse: several

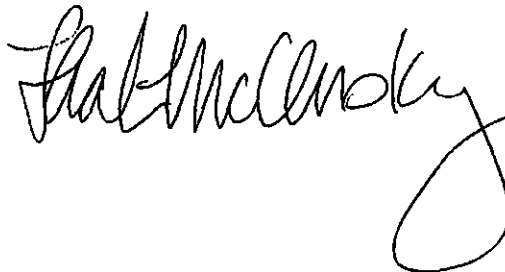
Brief summary of alleged abuse: Romano provided [REDACTED] alcohol on numerous occasions; cleric showed [REDACTED] Penthouse magazine; Romano laid on cot where [REDACTED] was sleeping and kissed his neck and nipples; inappropriate "I love yous" and hugs; [REDACTED] was present when Romano sexually abused [REDACTED]

Brief summary and date of response from accused: 1/4/08

Stage of disposition by Review Board: 6/08; concluded, reasonable cause to suspect that the alleged misconduct occurred

Additional allegations made by accuser: None

Signature of Director:



Date:

9/2/10

Summary Time Line
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ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL
NO DISSEMINATION
WITHOUT THE WRITTEN
AUTHORIZATION OF THE
OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

HILLARD HEINTZE, LLC
STRATEGIC SECURITY ADVISORS



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

CASE # PFR-238

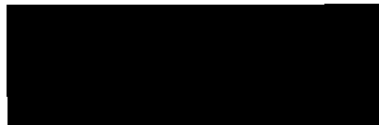
IN THE MATTER OF: REV. RUSSELL L. ROMANO

Delivered on May 14, 2008 to:

MS. LEAH MCCLUSKEY, DIRECTOR
OFFICE FOR CHILD ABUSE INVESTIGATIONS AND REVIEW
737 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, SUITE 900
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

Prepared by:

HILLARD HEINTZE, LLC
STRATEGIC SECURITY ADVISORS





May 14, 2008

Ms. Leah R. McCluskey
Director
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review
ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO
737 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 900
Chicago, Illinois, 60611

Dear Ms. McCluskey:

Hillard Heintze has completed the investigation requested in the March 12, 2008 case referral in the matter of retired priest Russell Romano. Attached you will find our investigative report which has been prepared by Hillard Heintze as a confidential work product for the sole use of the Archdiocese of Chicago, Professional Review Board. With this transmittal, one (1) original hardbound copy and one (1) electronic version are being submitted to you as Director, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review.

In the case referral, Hillard Heintze was requested to determine whether Romano worked with altar boys while assigned to St. Leonard and whether Romano was known to have pulled [REDACTED] out of class. Hillard Heintze interviewed eleven individuals in this investigation.

The investigation noted several points, which have been documented as Key Findings. The investigation confirmed that Romano was in charge of the altar boys at St. Leonard, but found not information or evidence to corroborate the allegation that [REDACTED] was pulled from class by Romano. In fact, [REDACTED] 8th grade teacher, Mary Bauer, directly refutes this allegation.

Should you need any additional information on our investigation, please do not hesitate to call me at [REDACTED].

Sincerely,
HILLARD HEINTZE, LLC

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Arnette F. Heintze".

Arnette Heintze

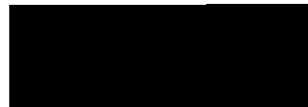
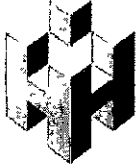




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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On March 12, 2008, Hillard Heintze received a request from the Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review for investigative assistance in the matter of Russell Romano, a retired priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago. We were requested to conduct interviews of persons who may have information relevant to the allegations presented by [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. Specifically, we were requested to determine whether Romano worked with altar boys while assigned to St. Leonard and whether Romano was known to have pulled [REDACTED] from class.

Five priests who had knowledge of Russell Romano were interviewed: Fr. Gary Miller, Fr. Daniel Collins, Fr. William Curran, Fr. Thomas Schwab, and Fr. Thomas Winikates. Two former lay teachers at St. Leonard – Mary Bauer and [REDACTED] – were also interviewed. Several of these people interviewed spoke very highly of Romano. No evidence was found to substantiate the allegation that Romano acted inappropriately with children.

Romano appeared to have a lot of contact with children, but our investigation found no evidence or information indicating that Romano ever mistreated or abused children. It was indicated that Romano had on occasion stayed out late at night, but it was not known what his activity was during this time. Fr. Collins, Fr. Curran and Fr. Miller all said Romano was in charge of the altar boys.

The investigation confirmed that Romano was in charge of the altar boys at St. Leonard, but found no corroborating information or evidence to support the allegation that [REDACTED] was removed from class by Romano. In fact, [REDACTED] 8th grade teacher, Mary Bauer, directly refuted this allegation.

Hillard Heintze has identified four Key Findings during this investigation.





CASE REFERRAL TO HILLARD HEINTZE

On March 12, 2008, The Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review referred the Russell Romano matter to Hillard Heintze for investigation.

On March 12, 2008, Harvey Radney, Hillard Heintze Senior Vice President for Investigative Services, initiated a comprehensive case review of the Romano investigative file provided by the Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review.

On March 13, 2008, Radney assigned Investigator Dan Everett the primary responsibility of conducting this investigation.

DETAILS OF INVESTIGATION

Case Review

On March 12 and March 13, 2008, Arnette Heintze, Harvey Radney and Investigative Associate Jim Molloy initiated a comprehensive review of the investigative case and associated files in the matter of Russell Romano, which were provided by the Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review.

Interviews

From March 17 through April 25, 2008, Hillard Heintze Investigator Dan Everett conducted the following eleven interviews. While the interviews are summarized below, the complete memorandums of interviews are contained as attachments to this file.

March 17, 2008 – Interview of Fr. Gary Miller

Fr. Miller stated he had been assigned to St. Leonard Parish with Romano. Even though Fr. Miller did not get along with Romano, he indicated he had never seen or heard of Romano acting inappropriately with children. Fr. Miller stated that Romano and he drank alcohol very heavily on occasion. They sometimes disagreed on ministry issues, but Fr. Miller stated he had no knowledge concerning Romano's alleged abuse of children.

March 24, 2008 – Interview of Fr. Daniels Collins

Fr. Collins stated he was much older than Romano and never got to know him very well while they served at St. Leonard. Fr. Collins stated Romano kept to himself and very often stayed out late at night, never telling anyone where he had been. Fr. Collins stated he had no knowledge of Romano acting inappropriately with children in the parish.





March 24, 2008 – Interview of Fr. Charles Becker

Fr. Charles Becker is much younger than Romano, and stated he did not know Romano or have any knowledge of him.

March 25, 2008 – Interview of Fr. Desmond

Fr. Desmond stated he had never ever heard of Romano. The investigator had been given the name of Fr. Desmond, but later learned that Fr. Desmond appeared to be much younger and had no information on Romano.

April 01, 2008 – Interview of Fr. Schwab

Fr. Schwab stated that Romano arrived at St. Leonard after he had left the parish. Fr. Schwab stated had no information regarding the allegation that Romano had acted inappropriate with children. Fr. Schwab recalled hearing that Romano was a well-liked priest.

April 15, 2008 – Interview of Fr. Winikates

Fr. Winikates stated he Romano and had conversed with him in the past at various functions. Fr. Winikates stated he never shared assignments with Romano, and further stated he did not know him well. Fr. Winikates stated he was ordained a priest in May of 1970, and believed that Romano is older than him. Fr. Winikates was assigned to St. Leonard Parish from 1989 to 1995. Fr. Winikates stated never heard parishioners discuss Romano and the allegations of inappropriate behavior.

April 17, 2008 – Interview of Fr. Joyce

Fr. Joyce had heard of Romano but never really knew him, and had no information to add to this investigation.

April 18, 2008 – Interview of Sister [REDACTED]

The investigator contacted Sr. [REDACTED] in an attempt to locate Sister [REDACTED]. Sr. [REDACTED] was unable to supply any information on Sister [REDACTED].

April 18, 2008 – Interview of Mr. [REDACTED]

Mr. [REDACTED] stated he taught at St. Leonard from 1970-1980 and was also [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] was friendly with Romano and worked on several parish projects with him. [REDACTED] always felt that Romano was an aggressive priest who was destined to do very well in the Church. [REDACTED] recalled Romano's sermons as excellent and well liked. During his time at St. Leonard, Romano taught religion to the grade school children. [REDACTED] stated he remembers parish children genuine affection for Romano. [REDACTED] recalled that Romano drove a dark blue Pontiac of some sort. ([REDACTED] alleged that Romano drove a blue Grand Prix).





April 19, 2008 – Interview of Fr. Curran

Fr. Curran stated that Romano was four years behind him in the seminary and he never got to know him very well. Fr. Curran had no knowledge of Romano ever acting inappropriately with children.

April 25, 2008 – Interview of Mary Bauer

Mary Bauer taught at St. Leonard School and stated that Romano was a priest who was very involved in school activities. He would periodically visit classes to say hello to the children. Ms. Bauer never viewed this negatively and always felt the children enjoyed these visits. Ms. Bauer did not recall Romano ever coming to any of her classes and removing any of the students from the classroom. She stated that she does not recall that ever occurring. Ms. Bauer stated that Romano was very involved with the children in the parish, but she had had no knowledge of Romano ever abusing any children.

Surveillance

None conducted in this investigation.

Research and Site Visits

None conducted in this investigation.





MULTI-DATABASE INQUIRY

Proprietary multi-database resources were queried for the following information:

- Current address information
- Historical address information
- Date of birth
- Information related to social security numbers
- Driver licenses
- Phone numbers
- Criminal history
- Court records
- Names of individual's relatives
- Other people who have used the individual's addresses
- Neighbors with listed phone numbers

Due to the origination of public record information by open sources, the public records and commercially available data sources used in reports may contain errors. Source data is sometimes reported or entered inaccurately, processed poorly or incorrectly, and is generally not free from defect. This report aggregates and summarizes the data, as provided by public records and commercially available data sources and is not the source of the data. Due to privacy regulations instituted by individual states, specific data from all states may not be available.

BACKGROUND CHECK

On March 13, 2008, Harvey Radney conducted a search of multi proprietary database regarding [REDACTED] This inquiry revealed no negative or derogatory information regarding [REDACTED]

Accuser - [REDACTED]

Federal Civil and Criminal Court Records
Negative

State Civil and Criminal Court Records
Negative





National Sex Offender Public Registry

Negative

Uniform Commercial Code

Negative

Bankruptcies, Liens and Judgments

Negative

Business Affiliations

Negative





KEY FINDINGS

FINDING #1

██████████ stated that Russell Romano was in charge of the altar boys at St. Leonard. Through interviews with Fr. Daniel Collins, Fr. William Curran and Fr. Gary Miller, it was confirmed that Romano was in charge of the altar boys while he served at St. Leonard Parish. ██████████ a teacher ██████████ at St. Leonard, stated he knew Romano was in charge of the altar boys, but never heard comments or allegations that Romano acted inappropriate with minor children.

FINDING #2

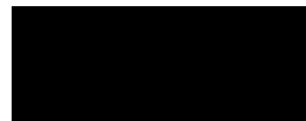
██████████ stated that Romano drove a blue Grand Prix. ██████████ recalled that Romano drove a dark blue Pontiac of some sort.

FINDING #3

██████████ stated that Romano was a heavy drinker and that he often let them drink alcohol with him. Fr. Miller admitted that he and Romano drank heavily.

FINDING #4

██████████ stated Romano often pulled him from class to go to lunch. Mary Bauer, a teacher at St. Leonard, said she could not recall Romano ever doing this with students.





ATTACHMENTS

#1: Memorandum of Interview: Fr. Gary Miller

Date: March 14, 2008
Re: Case File PFR 238 - [REDACTED]/Romano
From: Investigator Dan Everett

Investigator Everett contacted Fr. Gary Miller telephonically on March 14, 2008 to arrange an interview regarding a confidential investigation of sexual abuse of minors involving a priest. Investigator Everett interviewed Fr. Miller on March 17, 2008 at the St. Bernadette's Rectory, 9343 South Francisco Avenue, Evergreen Park, IL 60805. Fr. Miller is currently the Pastor at St. Bernadette's Parish.

Fr. Miller stated he had first met Russell Romano in the early 1960s when they both attended Quigley High School in Chicago. Fr. Miller stated Romano was in the class one year behind him. Fr. Miller and Romano were only acquaintances and did not know each other very well at that time. Fr. Miller attended Quigley High School from 1960-1964. Fr. Miller attended Niles College Seminary in 1965. Romano attended shortly after. Again Fr. Miller and Romano were only acquaintances and not very good friends. Fr. Miller then attended St. Mary of the Lake Seminary from 1966-1972, and Romano attended from 1967-1973. It was during this time, that Fr. Miller and Romano became good friends. They both worked on several theater plays together.

In 1972, Fr. Miller was ordained and assigned to St. Leonard parish in Berwyn. According to Fr. Miller, Romano arrived at St. Leonard in June of 1974 after spending a very short time at either St. Anne's in Lansing, IL, or St. Agnes in Chicago Heights. During their time together at St. Leonard, Fr. Miller and Romano had many disagreements and did not generally get along. Fr. Miller felt he and Romano had different approaches to the ministry. Fr. Miller indicated he and Romano drank very heavily and very often together and then would have disagreements about the ministry. [REDACTED]



Fr. Miller went on to say he felt Romano was a very good homilist, but was two-faced to everyone he dealt with. When asked to explain, Fr. Miller stated that he always preached about having an open door policy, but never made himself available. Fr. Miller considered Romano to be very intense. Fr. Miller was assigned to St. Leonard from 1972 till 1978. Romano was assigned there from 1974 to 1979 or 1980. Fr. Miller stated other than St. Leonard, he and Romano never worked together at any other parishes. Fr. Miller did not recall what other parishes Romano might have been assigned to after he left St. Leonard.

When asked in what type of past time activities Romano participated, Fr. Miller said he did not recall. When asked what responsibilities Romano had at St. Leonard, Fr. Miller stated Romano was in charge of the CCD program and was responsible for the stipend account at the parish. Russell was also the Chaplain for an organization called Catholic Family Movement.

The investigator asked Fr. Miller if Romano had any involvement with the altar boys or the teen club. Fr. Miller stated he had forgotten about that and remembered Russell was in charge of the altar boys and the teen club. When asked, Fr. Miller stated he had never heard any complaints about Russell from any altar boys or any members of the teen club or any minors in general. Fr. Miller indicated he does not recall Romano spending excessive time with minor children. The investigator asked Fr. Miller if he recalled what type of vehicle Romano drove while he was assigned at St. Leonard. Fr. Miller did not recall. Fr. Miller was then asked if he knew of any times Romano frequented the drive-in movie theater at 31st and Cicero Avenue. Fr. Miller indicated he did not.

The investigator asked Fr. Miller to discuss or identify any other priest that had contact with Romano during his stay at St. Leonard parish. When asked about Monsignor Farrell, Fr. Peschon, Fr. Sheridan and Fr. Pommier, Fr. Miller indicated that they had all passed away. Fr. Curran was assigned to St. Leonard parish during some of the time that Romano was there. According to Fr. Miller, Fr. Curran is currently assigned with him at St. Bernadette's. Fr. Curran is currently on a sabbatical, and will not return for another two to three weeks. Fr. Becker who may have been assigned to St. Leonard during this time is currently assigned to a parish in Wauconda, IL.

Fr. Nicholas Desmond, who worked with Romano at the Maryville Summer Camp in Eagle River, Wisconsin, is currently assigned to St. Aloysius Parish located at 2300 West LeMoyne Avenue in Chicago. Fr. Dan Collins succeeded Fr. Miller at St. Leonard and is currently assigned to St. Mary of the Lake Parish, 4200 North Sheridan Road, Chicago, IL. The investigator questioned Fr. Miller regarding any

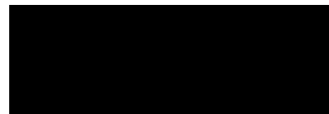


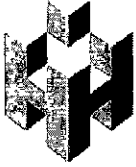


teachers that might have taught at St. Leonard during the above time. It was stated Mr. [REDACTED] was a sixth grade teacher and might still be [REDACTED] at the St. Leonard Church. Fr. Miller recalled a teacher by the name of [REDACTED]. He believes she is currently living in [REDACTED]. Fr. Miller recalled the principal at St. Leonard was Sister Joan Gardner from the Sisters of St. Joseph. The investigator then questioned Fr. Miller of his recollection of the two women – [REDACTED] – who had been cleaning women at the St. Leonard rectory during his time there. Fr. Miller did not recall those two women, but does remember the cook [REDACTED] [REDACTED] had passed away some time ago.

The investigator then questioned Fr. Miller regarding the Maryville Camp in Eagle River, Wisconsin. Fr. Miller stated that it was a summer camp to be used by the children of Maryville Academy. Prior to ordination, Romano was in charge of the seminarians at the summer camp in Eagle River. Fr. Miller could not recall the names of any seminarians who worked under Romano. When asked, Fr. Miller indicated he never knew of Romano bringing or arranging for children from St. Leonard to be brought to the camp. Fr. Miller did not recall ever hearing any talk or witnessing Romano acting inappropriately with any children at either St. Leonard or the summer camp in Eagle River, Wisconsin.

Fr. Miller stated he did not know when Romano left the priesthood. He has not spoken with Romano since sometime around 1980. Fr. Miller had no knowledge of any information involving Romano after that time. The investigator then asked Fr. Miller if he had any additional information that he might want to share. Fr. Miller stated he did not.





#2: Memorandum of Interview: Fr. Daniel Collins

Date: March 18, 2008
Re: Case File PFR 238 – [REDACTED] Romano
From: Investigator Dan Everett

Investigator Everett contacted Fr. Daniel Collins via telephone on March 18, 2008 to arrange an interview regarding a confidential investigation of sexual abuse of minors involving a priest. Fr. Collins and the investigator met on March 24, 2008 at St. Mary of the Lake Rectory, 4200 North Sheridan Avenue, Chicago, IL 60813. Ph# [REDACTED]

Fr. Collins is currently retired and living at St. Mary of the Lake Parish. Fr. Collins stated he was ordained in 1958 and was much older than Russell Romano. Fr. Collins first met Romano in July 1978 when he was first assigned to St. Leonard Parish. Both Fr. Collins and Romano were Assistant Pastors at St. Leonard. He felt that Romano kept to himself, and seldom had dinner with the other priests. Romano had very little to do with the other priests. Romano would often go out for the evening and stay out very late. Fr. Collins felt like he had nothing in common with Romano. Fr. Collins stated his contact with Romano was limited except for Liturgy projects that they were required to work on together. Fr. Collins stated he remained at St. Leonard until 1982 and indicated Romano left St. Leonard approximately one year after arriving which might have been 1979 or 1980. When asked, Fr. Collins stated that he knew nothing of Romano's assignments either before or after St. Leonard. Fr. Collins did recall Romano performing television prayer services that were aired in the 1970s. Fr. Collins last saw Romano approximately three or four years ago when they attended the funeral of a mutual friend.

Fr. Collins stated that Romano ran the parish teen club. Romano also trained the altar boys at St. Leonard. When asked, Fr. Collins indicated he never felt that Romano spent an extraordinary amount of time around minor children but did have some involvement with teens since Romano was rather young himself. The investigator asked Fr. Collins if he recalled what type of vehicle Romano drove while he was assigned to St Leonard's. Fr. Collins could not recall the type of vehicle. When asked, Fr. Collins indicated that he never heard of Romano frequenting the drive-in movie theater located at 31st and Cicero Avenue. Fr. Collins stated while he was at St. Leonard, he never heard any talk of Romano or any other priest acting inappropriately

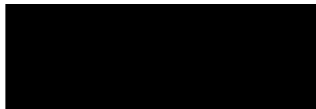




with minor children. It was not until much later that Fr. Collins heard rumors of allegations being made about Fr. Ruge and Romano.

Fr. Collins does not recall the date when he heard these rumors. Fr. Collins does not recall Romano ever bringing minor children to the rectory other than children as a group spending time in the rectory relating to their Confirmation projects. Fr. Collins had no knowledge of Romano ever taking any minor children from the parish up to Eagle River, Wisconsin to the Maryville Summer Camp.

The investigator asked Fr. Collins if he could name any other priests who were assigned to St. Leonard during any part of Romano's time at St. Leonard. Fr. Collins mentioned Fr. Miller whom the investigator had already interviewed. He then mentioned Monsignor Farrell who is deceased, along with Fr. Schwab whom he believed may be assigned to Our Lady of Hope Parish in Chicago. Fr. Collins could not recall any teachers or other priests that were present at St. Leonard during this time. The investigator questioned Fr. Collins about [REDACTED] who had worked at the St. Leonard rectory as cleaning women. Fr. Collins did recall [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] but did not know where she was currently living.





#3: Memorandum of Interview: Charles P. Becker

Date: March 19, 2008
Re: Case File PFR 238 - [REDACTED] Romano
From: Investigator Dan Everett

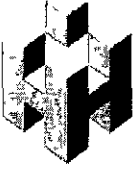
On March 19, 2008, Investigator Everett contacted Fr. Becker, who was named in the investigative file, to arrange an interview. Investigator Everett identified himself and explained to Fr. Becker he would like to interview him regarding a confidential investigation of sexual abuse of minors involving a priest. Fr. Becker agreed to be interviewed by the investigator at the Noonan Academy, 19105 Henry Street, Mokena, IL.

Fr. Becker stated that he is currently residing at [REDACTED]. Fr. Becker is assigned to specialized ministry in that area and reports to the Noonan Academy one time a week. Fr. Becker was ordained a priest in 1986; Fr. Becker was assigned to St. Francis De Sales in Lake Zurich, IL from 1986-1990. He was then assigned to Mt. St. Joseph's in Lake Zurich as a home resident from 1991-1997. From 1998 until 2004 Fr. Becker was the Chaplain at Handmaids of Precious Blood in Lake Villa, Illinois.

When questioned about Romano, Fr. Becker stated he had never heard of him and had never met a Russell Romano in the priesthood. It is noted Fr. Charles Becker was ordained several years after Romano.

It appears that this Fr. Becker is a different person than the Fr. Becker indicated in the investigative report.





#4: Memorandum of Interview: Rev. William Curran

Date: April 14, 2008
Re: Case File PFR 238 - [REDACTED]/Romano
From: Investigator Dan Everett

Investigator Everett contacted Fr. William Curran telephonically on April 14, 2008 to arrange an interview regarding a confidential investigation of sexual abuse of minors involving a priest. Fr. Curran and the investigator met on April 19, 2008 at the St. Bernadette's Rectory, 9343 South Francisco Avenue, Evergreen Park, IL 60805. Fr. Curran is currently the Associate Pastor at St. Bernadette's Parish.

Fr. Curran stated he had first met Romano at St. Mary of the Lake Seminary in Mundelein, IL. Fr. Curran stated that Romano was four years behind him. He stated that as a result of their age difference, he never really knew Romano all that well.

Fr. Curran stated he saw Russell probably once a month, although they never really interacted with one another. Fr. Curran was ordained a priest in 1969 and was assigned to St. Leonard Parish. He stayed at St. Leonard until June 1974 at which time Romano took his place. Fr. Curran was then assigned to All Saints Parish located at 108th and State Street in Chicago. Fr. Curran returned to St. Leonard as Pastor from 1992 till 2005. Fr. Curran stated that after he left St. Leonard the first time, he returned periodically to attend christenings, weddings and funerals. He saw Romano on some of those occasions. Fr. Curran stated that upon returning to St. Leonard to attend these functions, he never heard any talk by parishioners of any inappropriate behavior by Romano. As a matter of fact, Fr. Curran stated he had heard the parishioners thought very highly of the sermons that Romano gave.

Fr. Curran was not aware of any past time activities in which Romano was involved. Fr. Curran was not absolutely sure, but he thought that upon his arrival at St. Leonard, Romano was responsible for the teen club and in charge of the altar boys. These were assignments that Fr. Curran held while he was at St. Leonard.

Fr. Curran was very familiar with the Maryville summer camp in Eagle River, Wisconsin, but did not have any information regarding Romano visiting the camp with any minor children. Fr. Curran did not know what type of vehicle Romano drove





while he was at St. Leonard nor did he have any information on Romano frequenting a drive-in movie theater located near St. Leonard.

Investigator Everett asked Fr. Curran if he recalled lay teachers by the name of [REDACTED], Mary Bauer or Sister [REDACTED]. Fr. Curran indicated that he did recall Mary Bauer, but did not recall [REDACTED] or Sister [REDACTED]. The investigator asked Fr. Curran if he had any additional information to offer. Fr. Curran stated he did not.





#5: Memorandum of Interview: Fr. Nicholas Desmond

Date: March 25, 2008
Re: Case File PFR 238 - [REDACTED] Romano
From: Investigator Dan Everett

Upon reviewing reports regarding this investigation, Investigator Everett discovered that [REDACTED] the [REDACTED] of [REDACTED], had reported he had gone to Eagle River, Wisconsin to visit a summer camp with which Romano was involved. This camp was operated by Maryville Academy. [REDACTED] alleges he was in the seventh or eighth grade when Romano made arrangements for him to come to the camp. During his visit, [REDACTED] alleges Romano had a friend at the camp with him, who he thought might have also been a priest. Reports indicated the friend was a Fr. Desmond. During the interview with Fr. Miller, the investigator learned that Fr. Desmond is currently assigned to St. Aloysius Parish in Chicago.

Investigator Everett contacted Fr. Nicholas Desmond via telephone on March 18, 2008 to arrange an interview regarding a confidential investigation of sexual abuse of minors involving a priest. Fr. Desmond and the investigator met on March 25, 2008 at the St. Aloysius Rectory, 2300 North LeMoyne Avenue, Chicago, IL. The investigator informed Fr. Desmond that the priest accused was Romano.

Fr. Desmond stated he did not know a Russell Romano, although he felt as though he had heard the name. When questioned further, Fr. Desmond stated he had never been to the Maryville Summer Camp in Eagle River, Wisconsin. Fr. Desmond stated he was ordained in 1984, and had never been assigned to St. Leonard parish and knew for certain he was never assigned to any parish or church with a Romano. Fr. Desmond stated he was sorry, but he simply had no information regarding a Russell Romano. Fr. Desmond looked in the Archdiocese directory for a possible listing of another priest named Desmond, but found none.

It should be noted that while reviewing the report, it was learned [REDACTED] birthday is [REDACTED] indicated he thought he was in the seventh or eighth grade at the time, which would have placed this incident in the time frame of 1977 or 1978.





#6: Memorandum of Interview: Fr. Gerald Joyce

Date: April 7, 2008
Re: Case File PFR 238 – [REDACTED] Romano
From: Investigator Dan Everett

Investigator Everett learned from Fr. Schwab that Fr. Gerald Joyce might have been at St. Leonard Parish in the mid 1960s, around the same time as Romano. On April 7, 2008, Investigator Everett interviewed Fr. Gerald Joyce via telephone. The investigator explained to Fr. Joyce this interview was regarding a confidential investigation of sexual abuse of minors involving a priest. The investigator informed Fr. Joyce that the accused was Russell Romano and that these allegations of sexual abuse may have taken place while Romano was assigned to St. Leonard Parish.

Fr. Joyce is currently assigned as the Pastor at Divine Infant Parish, 1601 New Castle, Westchester, Illinois 60154. Fr. Joyce was ordained a priest in 1961. He was assigned to St. Leonard Parish from 1961 through 1965, many years prior to Romano's arrival. Fr. Joyce stated he heard of Romano, but really did not recall ever meeting him, and if he did, it was in passing. Fr. Joyce did not ever recall having a conversation with Romano. Fr. Joyce named other priests that were assigned to St. Leonard during his tenure there. The priests mentioned were either deceased or had already been interviewed.

Fr. Joyce stated he never heard stories alleging that Romano acted inappropriately with minors. Fr. Joyce stated he had no other information to supply regarding Romano.





#7: Memorandum of Interview: Fr. Thomas Schwab

Date: April 1, 2008
Re: Case File PFR 238 – [REDACTED] Romano
From: Investigator Dan Everett

Investigator Everett learned from Fr. Collins that Fr. Thomas Schwab might have been at St. Leonard Parish in the mid 1960s, around the same time as Romano. On April 1, 2008 Investigator Everett received a call from [REDACTED], a secretary at Our Lady of Hope Parish. [REDACTED] stated that Fr. Schwab was returning the investigator's phone call and was willing to be interviewed. [REDACTED] stated that Fr. Schwab requested the interview be done via telephone due to his poor health. Investigator Everett informed Fr. Schwab the interview pertained to a confidential investigation of alleged sexual abuse of minors involving former priest Russell Romano.

Fr. Schwab stated that he is currently at Our Lady of Hope Parish and is retired. Our Lady of Hope is located at 8711 West Devon in Rosemont, IL. Fr. Schwab stated he was at St. Leonard Parish from 1964-1966, and believed that Romano arrived after he left. Fr. Schwab was assigned to Niles after he left St. Leonard. Fr. Schwab could not recall if he actually ever met Romano, but did recall hearing that he was a very well liked priest.

Fr. Schwab stated he never heard any talk of any priest including Romano acting inappropriately around minor children, when he was at St. Leonard and after he had left. When questioned about any other priest that might have been at St. Leonard during this time frame, Fr. Schwab offered the names of Fr. Jerry Joyce and Fr. Frank Kaucky – both of whom he believed to be retired in the Chicago area. Fr. Schwab apologized to the investigator that he could not be of more help.





#8: Memorandum of Interview: Fr. Thomas Winikates

Date: April 15, 2008
Re: Case File PFR 238 – [REDACTED] Romano
From: Investigator Dan Everett

Investigator Dan Everett interviewed Fr. Gerald Joyce of Divine Infant Church on April 7, 2008 in regards to this investigation. Fr. Joyce indicated Fr. Winikates who is assigned with him at Divine Infant Church might have known Romano. On April 15, 2008, Investigator Everett received a call from Fr. Winikates.

Fr. Winikates stated he knew Romano and conversed with him in the past at various priest's functions. Fr. Winikates never shared any assignments with Romano and indicated he did not know him all that well. Fr. Winikates stated he was ordained a priest in May of 1970, and believed Romano was older than him. Fr. Winikates was assigned to St. Leonard Parish in 1989 and stayed there until 1995.

When questioned, Fr. Winikates stated he never heard any parishioners talk about inappropriate behavior by Romano or any other priest that had been at St. Leonard. Fr. Winikates never had any reason to believe abuse of any type was occurring at St. Leonard by any priest. Fr. Winikates stated he felt he did not know Romano well enough to comment on Romano's background or reputation. Fr. Winikates stated he had heard Romano had left the priesthood, but never heard about any allegations being made against him at any time. When questioned, Fr. Winikates stated he had no additional information to offer.





#9: Memorandum of Interview: Mary J. Bauer

Date: April 25, 2008
Re: Case File PFR 238 - [REDACTED] Romano
From: Investigator Dan Everett

Investigator Everett contacted Mary Bauer via telephone to arrange an interview regarding a confidential investigation of sexual abuse of minors involving a priest. Mary Bauer and the investigator met on April 25, 2008 at St. William School, 2559 North Sayre Avenue, Chicago, IL. Investigator Everett informed Bauer the priest in question was Russell Romano who had been assigned to St. Leonard Parish in the mid to late 1970s.

Mary Bauer is currently the Principal at St. William School. She has held that position from 1996 until the present. Bauer taught at St. Leonard in Berwyn, IL in 1979 and 1980. She returned to the school and taught there from 1982-1996 with the last eight years as the Assistant Principal. Bauer has been a parishioner at St. Leonard since 1971. Bauer stated she taught Religious Education classes at St. Leonard when Romano was the coordinator. Bauer had some contact with Romano at that time but claimed not to have known him very well. Bauer recalled Romano as very outgoing and remembered all the children at St. Leonard liking him very much. When questioned about Romano's reputation and conduct, Bauer indicated she could not comment on his conduct, but felt he always acted very professionally. Bauer was not able to comment on any habits Romano might have had while at St. Leonard. Bauer stated she had never heard any stories of Romano acting inappropriately with any children until after he left St. Leonard. She then heard stories of some involvement with minor children, but knew no details.

Bauer stated Romano was a priest who was very involved in school activities. He would periodically visit classes to say hello to the children. Bauer never saw this as a negative thing and always felt the children enjoyed these visits. The investigator then questioned Bauer as to whether or not she recalled Romano coming to any of her classes and removing any of the students from the classroom. She stated that she does not recall that ever occurring. Bauer stated that if there was ever a time when a student had to leave class to serve as an altar boy for a funeral mass, there was usually a pre-arranged schedule to indicate that. The investigator asked Bauer of some past time activities that Romano might have enjoyed. Bauer recalled Romano doing some

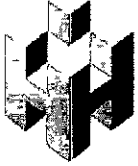




type of religious television show. She also remembered Romano playing basketball on the school lot with many of the school age children. Bauer seemed to remember Romano having some involvement with the parish teen club, but did not recall any details. Bauer knew nothing of Romano's involvement with the altar boys. Investigator Everett asked Bauer if she recalled what type of vehicle Romano had driven. She replied that she did not. Bauer went on to say how her children were much younger, and did not attend St. Leonard school until after Romano was gone. Due to this, Bauer felt that she never got to know Romano very well.

Investigator Everett asked Bauer what information she might have on a fellow teacher named [REDACTED] or Sister [REDACTED]. Bauer stated that she did not recall a [REDACTED], but does remember hearing that Sister [REDACTED] had left the religious order, goes by the name of [REDACTED] and is believed to be living in the area of [REDACTED].





#10: Memorandum of Interview: Sister [REDACTED]

Date: April 21, 2008
Re: Case File PFR 238 - [REDACTED] Romano
From: Investigator Dan Everett

On April 21, 2008, after having left previous messages, Sister [REDACTED] contacted Investigator Everett. Investigator Everett identified himself and explained the reason for his previous phone calls.

Sister [REDACTED] stated she is part of the leadership team of the Congregation of St. Joseph. Investigator Everett informed Sister [REDACTED] he was attempting to locate Sister [REDACTED] who had taught at St. Leonard in the late 1970s. Sister [REDACTED] stated she was familiar with Sister [REDACTED] and knew she left the Congregation of St. Joseph sometime in the 1980s.

Sister [REDACTED] stated at the present time she had no additional information on the whereabouts of the former Sister [REDACTED]. Sr. [REDACTED] stated upon returning to her office on April 22, 2008, she would attempt to locate information on the current status and possible location of Sister [REDACTED] and re-contact Investigator Everett with any additional information.





#11: Memorandum of Interview: [REDACTED]

Date: March 18, 2008

Re: Case File PFR 238 - [REDACTED] Romano

From: Investigator Dan Everett

On March 18, 2008, Investigator Everett contacted [REDACTED] and explained to [REDACTED] he would like to interview him regarding a confidential investigation of sexual abuse of minors involving a priest. Investigator Everett learned that [REDACTED] is now retired and residing in [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] told Investigator Everett he had taught at St. Leonard from 1970 through 1980. Mr. [REDACTED] stated he taught all eight grades at one time or another. Mr. [REDACTED] said he was also [REDACTED], a position he held until 2005. [REDACTED] said he did recall Romano as a priest at St. Leonard Parish. [REDACTED] said he was friendly with Romano and worked on several parish projects with him. [REDACTED] also said he felt Romano was an aggressive priest who was destined to do very well in the Church. [REDACTED] recalled Romano's sermons as excellent and well liked. [REDACTED] said he did not recall what Romano's free time activities were while he was assigned to St. Leonard Parish.

[REDACTED] said he did not know what assignments Romano held either prior to or after St. Leonard. [REDACTED] stated that Romano taught religion at the St. Leonard grade school. [REDACTED] remembered Romano helping out with the altar boys, but no more than other priests. [REDACTED] did not recall Romano having any involvement with the teen club. [REDACTED] stated he remembers the children of the parish liking Romano very much. [REDACTED] stated he had no knowledge of Romano frequenting a drive in movies. Mr. [REDACTED] stated he remembered Romano drove a dark blue Pontiac of some sort. [REDACTED] had indicated that Romano drove a blue Grand Prix).

When asked, [REDACTED] stated he did not recall Romano spending any extraordinary amount of time around minor children. [REDACTED] said he had never heard of any rumblings of Romano acting inappropriately around minor children. [REDACTED] said he had read in the newspaper of allegations being made against Romano, and Fr. Ruge, and said he was in complete shock when he heard this. [REDACTED] said he recalled Fr. Gary Miller, Fr. Ruge, and Fr. Collins being present at St. Leonard during this time frame.



P7R-238
GEN.

SUMMARY TIME LINE OF ALLEGATION

	ACCUSED	ACCUSER
Name:	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Address:	LaGrange, IL area	IL
Date of Birth:	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Current Age:	60	47
Name of civil attorney:	Patrick Reardon	Jeff Anderson

Date of Ordination [of accused]: 5/9/73

Location: Mundelein

Age at ordination: 26

Assignment location of accused: N/A

Status of accused: Resigned

Name of canonical advocate: N/A

Date allegation received: 8/23/07

Date allegation formalized: 9/21/07

Date of initial incident of alleged abuse: 1975

Date of last incident of alleged abuse: 1979

Approximate number of incidents of alleged abuse: several

Brief summary of alleged abuse: allegation of alleged abuse initially reported by [REDACTED] civil attorney; Fr. Romano took [REDACTED] to the drive-in to see a pornographic movie; provided him alcohol on this and numerous other occasions; slept overnight in rectory after being given alcohol by Fr. Romano; [REDACTED] woke up naked, penis hurting, next to Fr. Romano who was also naked; one other incident occurred when [REDACTED] was 18

Brief summary and date of response from accused: 1/4/08; Mr. Romano was accompanied by his wife to have the allegation read to him; he chose not to respond and said that he would continue correspondence with the AOC on this matter through his civil attorney; Mr. Romano stated that he hoped to call civil attorney Patrick Reardon and ask him to represent him in this matter

Stage of disposition by independent Review Board: Initial Review

Additional allegations made by accuser: None

ADDITIONAL ALLEGATIONS AGAINST ACCUSED

Name of accuser: [REDACTED]

Address: Chicago, IL area

Date of Birth: [REDACTED]

Age: 42

Name of civil attorney: Jeff Anderson

Date allegation received: 8/23/07

Date allegation formalized: 11/2/07

Date of initial incident of alleged abuse: summer of 1980

Date of last incident of alleged abuse: summer of 1980

Approximate number of incidents of alleged abuse: three

Brief summary of alleged abuse: Fr. Romano got into [REDACTED] bed, kissed him, rubbed his chest, and performed oral sex on him-[REDACTED]; continually told Fr. Romano to stop; second incident, Fr. Romano got into bed between [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]; heard [REDACTED] tell Fr. Romano to stop; third incident, Fr. Romano got in bed between [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] rubbed his chest and masturbated him until [REDACTED] came into the room [REDACTED]; Fr. Romano was drunk during all three incidents

Brief summary of response: 1/4/08; Mr. Romano was accompanied by his wife to have the allegation read to him; he chose not to respond and said that he would continue correspondence with the AOC on this matter through his civil attorney; Mr. Romano stated that he hoped to call civil attorney Patrick Reardon and ask him to represent him in this matter

Stage of disposition by independent Review Board: Initial Review

Additional allegations made by accuser: none

ADDITIONAL ALLEGATIONS AGAINST ACCUSED

Name of accuser: [REDACTED]

Address: Chicago, IL area

Date of Birth: [REDACTED]

Age: 43

Name of civil attorney: Jeff Anderson

Date allegation received: 8/23/07

Date allegation formalized: 9/27/07

Date of initial incident of alleged abuse: 1978

Date of last incident of alleged abuse: 1981

Approximate number of incidents of alleged abuse: several

Brief summary of alleged abuse: Fr. Romano provided [REDACTED] alcohol on numerous occasions; cleric showed [REDACTED] Penthouse magazine; Fr. Romano lay on cot where [REDACTED] was sleeping and kissed his neck and nipples; inappropriate "I love yous" and hugs; [REDACTED] was present when Fr. Romano sexually abused [REDACTED]

Brief summary of response: 1/4/08; Mr. Romano was accompanied by his wife to have the allegation read to him; he chose not to respond and said that he would continue correspondence with the AOC on this matter through his civil attorney; Mr. Romano stated that he hoped to call civil attorney Patrick Reardon and ask him to represent him in this matter

Stage of disposition by independent Review Board: Initial Review

Additional allegations made by accuser: none

ADDITIONAL ALLEGATIONS AGAINST ACCUSED

Name of accuser: [REDACTED]

Address: unknown

Date of Birth: unknown

Age: unknown

Name of civil attorney: unknown

Date allegation received: 3/1/85

Date allegation formalized: unknown

Date of initial incident of alleged abuse: 1985

Date of last incident of alleged abuse: unknown

Approximate number of incidents of alleged abuse: more than one

Brief summary of alleged abuse: inappropriate hugs and kisses; also noted that [REDACTED] allegation was corroborated by other students; noted that incidents took place at Quigley South and corroborated by other students

Brief summary of response: unknown

Stage of disposition by independent Review Board: substantiated by Administrative Review

Additional allegations made by accuser: none

ADDITIONAL ALLEGATIONS AGAINST ACCUSED

Name of accuser: [REDACTED]

Address: unknown

Date of Birth: unknown

Age: unknown

Name of civil attorney: unknown

Date allegation received: 4/25/86

Date allegation formalized: unknown

Date of initial incident of alleged abuse: 1986

Date of last incident of alleged abuse: unknown

Approximate number of incidents of alleged abuse: more than one

Brief summary of alleged abuse: inappropriate behavior, specifically serving beer to minors, showing porn movies, hugs and kisses, students sleeping at rectory; noted that incidents took place at Quigley South and corroborated by other students

Brief summary of response: unknown

Stage of disposition by independent Review Board: substantiated by Administrative Review

Additional allegations made by accused: None

ADDITIONAL ALLEGATIONS AGAINST ACCUSED

Name of accuser: [REDACTED]

Address: unknown

Date of Birth: unknown

Age: unknown

Name of civil attorney: unknown

Date allegation received: 4/25/86

Date allegation formalized: unknown

Date of initial incident of alleged abuse: 1986

Date of last incident of alleged abuse: unknown

Approximate number of incidents of alleged abuse: more than one

Brief summary of alleged abuse: inappropriate behavior, specifically serving beer to minors, showing porn movies, hugs & kisses and being in the same bed with [REDACTED] who stayed overnight in Romano's quarters at St. Barbara rectory; [REDACTED] indicated that Romano fondled and touched him; noted that the alleged incidents took place at Quigley South and St. Barbara and corroborated by other students

Brief summary of response: unknown

Stage of disposition by independent Review Board: substantiated by Administrative Review

Additional allegations made by accused: None

ADDITIONAL ALLEGATIONS AGAINST ACCUSED

Name of accuser: [REDACTED]

Address: unknown

Date of Birth: unknown

Age: unknown

Name of civil attorney: unknown

Date allegation received: 4/25/86

Date allegation formalized: unknown

Date of initial incident of alleged abuse: 1986

Date of last incident of alleged abuse: unknown

Approximate number of incidents of alleged abuse: unknown

Brief summary of alleged abuse: Fr. Romano made inappropriate gestures but [REDACTED] reported he was outraged and rejected them; noted that the incidents took place at Quigley South and were corroborated by other students

Brief summary of response: unknown

Stage of disposition by independent Review Board: substantiated by Administrative Review

Additional allegations made by accuser: none

ADDITIONAL ALLEGATIONS AGAINST ACCUSED

Name of accuser: [REDACTED]

Address: unknown

Date of Birth: unknown

Age: unknown

Name of civil attorney: unknown

Date allegation received: 4/25/86

Date allegation formalized: unknown

Date of initial incident of alleged abuse: 1986

Date of last incident of alleged abuse: unknown

Approximate number of incidents of alleged abuse: unknown

Brief summary of alleged abuse: inappropriate behavior, specifically serving beer to minors, showing porn movies, hugs and kisses, students sleeping at rectory; noted that the incidents took place at Quigley South and were corroborated by other students

Brief summary of response: unknown

Stage of disposition by independent Review Board: substantiated by Administrative Review

Additional allegations made by accuser: none

ADDITIONAL ALLEGATIONS AGAINST ACCUSED

Name of accuser: [REDACTED]

Address: unknown

Date of Birth: unknown

Age: unknown

Name of civil attorney: unknown

Date allegation received: 4/25/86

Date allegation formalized: unknown

Date of initial incident of alleged abuse: 1986

Date of last incident of alleged abuse: unknown

Approximate number of incidents of alleged abuse: unknown

Brief summary of alleged abuse: inappropriate behavior, specifically serving beer to minors, showing porn movies, hugs and kisses, students sleeping at rectory; noted that the incidents took place at Quigley South and were corroborated by other students

Brief summary of response: unknown

Stage of disposition by independent Review Board: substantiated by Administrative Review

Additional allegations made by accuser: none

ADDITIONAL ALLEGATIONS AGAINST ACCUSED

Name of accuser: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

Date of Birth: unknown

Age: unknown

Name of civil attorney: N/A

Date allegation received: 3/13/04

Date allegation formalized: N/A

Date of initial incident of alleged abuse: 1982

Date of last incident of alleged abuse: 1986

Approximate number of incidents of alleged abuse: more than one

Brief summary of alleged abuse: touching, inappropriate gestures or advances; [REDACTED] named a man named [REDACTED] as a corroborator; noted alleged incidents took place at Quigley South

Brief summary of response: not presented to Mr. Romano, as [REDACTED] did not respond to Professional Responsibility Administrator's attempts to reach him after receiving initial communication of allegation

Stage of disposition by independent Review Board: N/A

Additional allegations made by accuser: none

ADDITIONAL ALLEGATIONS AGAINST ACCUSED

Name of accuser: [REDACTED]

Address: Chicago, IL area

Date of Birth: unknown

Age: unknown

Name of civil attorney: N/A

Date allegation received: 2/27/07

Date allegation formalized: N/A

Date of initial incident of alleged abuse: unknown

Date of last incident of alleged abuse: unknown

Approximate number of incidents of alleged abuse: unknown

Brief summary of alleged abuse: Third-party allegation by an unidentified adult male; he alleges that [REDACTED] stated to him that Fr. Romano showed him and another male student pornographic materials in St. Barbara rectory

Brief summary of response: not presented to Mr. Romano as there has been no contact made by the alleged victim

Stage of disposition by independent Review Board: N/A

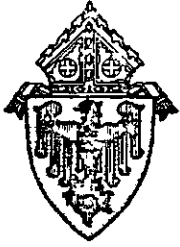
Additional allegations made by accuser: none

Signature of Director:



Date:

1/10/08



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

Office of the Chancellor

August 25, 1980

C
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P
Y

Reverend Russell L. Romano
Our Lady Mother of the Church Rectory
8747 W. Lawrence
Chicago, Illinois 60656


Dear Father Romano:

In accordance with Canon 476, and following the recommendation of the Diocesan Clergy Personnel Board, His Eminence, John Cardinal Cody, is pleased to transfer your residence at Our Lady Mother of the Church parish, Chicago, to become Associate Pastor to the Reverend Donald J. Hughes, Pastor at St. Barbara parish, Brookfield, while retaining your duties on the faculty at Quigley Preparatory Seminary, South.

Your transfer of residence is effective immediately, but I would ask you to consult with Father Hughes at your earliest convenience to delineate the nature and scope of your new parochial duties consistent with your primary duties at Quigley South.

Wishing you every blessing and priestly success, I am,

Sincerely yours in Christ,


Very Reverend John R. Keating
Chancellor

JRK: ag

cc: Very Rev. John J. Fahey, Urban Vicar, Vicariate VII
Very Rev. Gerald F. Kicanas, Rector, Quigley Preparatory Seminary, South
Rev. Donald J. Hughes, Pastor, St. Barbara parish, Brookfield
Rev. Peter F. Hayes, Pastor, Our Lady Mother of the Church parish, Chicago
Diocesan Clergy Personnel Board

bcc: ~~Angie Punzi~~ -- for TCC, week of (soon as possible) ; NOTICES; Priest's Personal File

AOC 004630