THADDEUS POSEY – TIMELINE

1973-1974- Resource Person/Assistant Parish Priest, Annunciation School, Denver, CO
1974-1977-Teacher of Social Studies and Theology, Machebeuf High School, Denver, CO
1974-1977-Chaplain, Department of Youth Corrections, Denver, CO
1974-1977- Special Assistant for Catholic Youth Services, Archdiocese of Denver
5/1/74 - Ordained
1977-1980- Provincial Secretary/Treasurer, Capuchin Province of Mid-America, Kansas City, MO
1977-1978- Military Chaplain, Parsons, KS
1978-1981- Military Assistant Staff Chaplain, Kansas City, KS
1980-1981- Director, St. Charles Lwanga Center
1980-1990- Director and Founder, Institute for Black Catholic Studies, Xavier University, New Orleans, LA
1981-1985- Teacher/Counselor/College Planner, Cardinal Ritter College Prep
1981-1990- Staff Chaplain, Kansas City, KS
1982-1990- Instructor of Theology, St. Louis University, St. Louis, MO
1986-1990- Guardian, St. Patrick Friary, St. Louis, MO
3/22/87 Letter from a survivor of sexual abuse to Posey confronting him about the abuse. (ARCH-043610-043612)
1990-1993 - Training Chaplain, New Orleans, LA

1/28/92  Letter from Dr. Martin B. Booth to Charles Polifka of the Capuchin Franciscans stating, after reading Posey’s evaluation and seeing him in therapy, “there are no findings which would render him unsuitable to work with minor children, and no psychiatric reason for withholding any ministerial assignment.” (ARCH-043569)

2/18/93  Memo from McDonough to Fr. Dennis Dease. The University of St. Thomas hired Posey as a professor without completing a background check. McDonough says this is procedurally fine, but before he engages in pastoral ministry the Archdiocese must complete a background check. (ARCH-043571)

6/10/93  Memo from Dominica Brennan to McDonough summarizing developments on Posey. The Archbishop wants a background check on Posey even if he never requests faculties in the Archdiocese. If anything went wrong with him the press wouldn’t distinguish his roles as teacher and priest. Posey’s provincial sent materials that raised a red flag- an allegation made in 1989. The Archbishop was still open to giving Posey faculties, after hearing the facts from the provincial. (ARCH-043599)

6/21/93  Letter from Sister Dominica Brennan to Posey welcoming him to the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis and granting him faculties. (ARCH-043656)

6/23/93  Letter from Charles Polifka, Capuchin Provincial, to Archbishop Roach regarding an allegation against Posey from 1989. A mother of a student Posey taught in the 1980’s sent Posey a letter her son had written to Posey, but never sent. The letter said Posey abused the boy. Posey was removed from ministry and Archbishop May was informed. Posey underwent a complete evaluation at St. Michael’s Retreat in St. Louis and was in counseling. Posey was then placed under supervision and not allowed to perform public ministry except through the military chaplaincy programs. (ARCH-043582-043583)

7/12/93  Letter from McDonough to Polifka asking for clarification on the allegation against Posey. If the allegation has been substantiated, then the Archdiocese is reluctant to have Posey work there. “Our experience has taught us that even the assurances of reputable psychologists cannot provide such a guarantee since the knowledge possessed by psychologists in this area is still evolving.” (ARCH-043597-043598)

7/31/93  Letter from Polifka to McDonough responding to his letter. He does not believe there is any reason to prevent Posey from ministry. He is surprised no recommendation from him was sought before Posey was offered a job at St. Thomas. (ARCH-043614-043615)

8/6/93  Letter from McDonough to Polifka- the Archbishop is satisfied with Polifka’s answers about Posey and the allegation against him and welcomes Posey to the Archdiocese in his teaching position. (ARCH-043650)

9/10/93  Memo from McDonough to Roach regarding the allegation against Posey. McDonough confronted Posey directly to ask him about the allegation. It appears
the Order’s attorney instructed Posey not to answer that question without the attorney present. (ARCH- 043616)

4/28/02 Letter from the mother of a survivor of abuse by Posey to the Superior of the Capuchin Order. Her son was abused by Posey at his school. Her son has since died. She complains about the way she was treated by a previous Superior when she first brought the abuse to his attention. He twisted her words and caused her shame. She would like the matter addressed directly with Posey. (ARCH-043608-043609)

8/19/02 Letter to Father Scully from the mother of a survivor of abuse by Posey describing the suffering her son and their family has endured since Posey’s abuse. The church has not reached out to help them. The cost of the aftermath of the abuse has been extremely high for the family and their son died. (ARCH-043601-043606)

8/23/02 Letter from Scully to the family of a survivor saying he is referring their case to the Order’s Review Board. (ARCH-043676)

4/29/03 Review Board’s Final Report regarding allegations of sexual abuse against Posey. The Board found that it is not likely that Posey committed sexual abuse. But the conduct was inappropriate and violated appropriate boundaries. (ARCH- 043626-043628; 043644-043646)