MINUTES

Review Board Members Present:

Members absent:

Non-members present:
Leah McCluskey, Professional Responsibility Administrator [PRA]
Rev. Daniel Smilanic, Cardinal's Delegate to the Review Board

I. Francis Cardinal George, OMI
II. Approval of Minutes – October 18, 2003

III. Update on Decisions Made by the Cardinal
   - PRA provided Board members with update on decisions made by Cardinal George
     based upon their recommendations from the October 18, 2003 agenda

III. Case Reviews

   Initial Reviews:
   A. In the Matter of

   B. In the Matter of

IV. Other Matters
   - 
   - 
   - 

AOC 006099
V. Informal update on matters in Office of Professional Responsibility

- New Cases
  - One [possibly two] new allegation[s] against Michael Weston [Resigned]
  - 
  - 
  - 
  - 
  - 

Next scheduled meeting is January 10, 2004 at 9:00 a.m.

Cc: Review Board Members
    Rev. Daniel Smilanic, Cardinal's Delegate to the Review Board
    Rev. James Kaczorowski, Vicar for Priests
    Rev. Thomas Tivy, Vicar for Priests
ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of Professional Fitness Review
676 N. St. Clair, Suite 1910
Chicago, Illinois 60611

Professional Fitness Review Board
Saturday, March 15, 2003

MINUTES

Review Board Members Present:

Non-members present:
Leah McCluskey, Professional Fitness Review Administrator [PFRA]

Non-members absent:
Bishop-Elect Rev. Thomas J. Paprocki, Cardinal's Delegate to the Review Board

I. Approval of Minutes – February 15, 2003

II. Case Reviews

Preliminary Review:
A. In the Matter of

B. In the Matter of
C. In the Matter of

D. In the Matter of

E. In the Matter of
Second Stage Reviews

A. In the Matter of Michael Weston [MW] [Resigned]-PFR-100

The Review Board conducted a Second Stage Review regarding the allegation of

The claim is as follows: MW humped [omitted] while he wrestled with the minor; mutual masturbation.

In a unanimous 7-0 vote, the Review Board determined that there is reasonable cause to suspect that misconduct did occur. Further, the Board recommends that no further action be taken because the accused priest is resigned, except to provide appropriate outreach to those affected by the alleged misconduct.

III. Other

- Monitoring proposal was presented to the Review Board. Changes and adjustments will be presented to PCAC on Monday, March 24, 2003.

Next scheduled meeting is April 26, 2003 at 10:00 a.m.

Cc: Review Board Members
    Bishop-Elect Rev. Thomas J. Paprocki, Cardinal’s Delegate to Review Board
    Rev. James Kaczorowski, Vicar for Priests
    Rev. Thomas Tivy, Vicar for Priests
MINUTES

Review Board Members Present:

Members absent:

Non-members present:
Leah McCluskey, Professional Responsibility Administrator [PRA]
Rev. Daniel Smilanic, Cardinal's Delegate to the Review Board

I. Approval of Minutes - June 19, 2004

II. Case Reviews

Initial Review
A. In the Matter of

B. In the Matter of

C. In the Matter of
D. In the Matter of

Review for Cause
A. In the Matter of
B. In the Matter of

C. In the Matter of Michael Weston [Resigned] - PFR - 100
The Review Board conducted a Review for Cause regarding the allegation of sexual misconduct made by [redacted]. The claim is as follows: massages given by Michael Weston and also humping 【redacted】 in the nude - no penetration.

In a 7-0 vote, in light of the information presented the Board determined that there is reasonable cause to suspect that the alleged misconduct occurred. Further, the Board recommended that PRA and Fr. Smilanic determine Michael Weston's status as a priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago.

III. Other Matters

- Fr. Smilanic addressed questions from the Board regarding involuntary laicizations via Rome
- Terms for Board members will expire in September 2004
- Fr. Smilanic initiated conversation regarding an upcoming Board meeting to serve as an inservice, including conversation with Mr. John O'Malley, Director of Legal Services
- PRA provided the Board information on the following:
• PRA updated the Board with Cardinal George's decisions based upon their recommendations from the June 19, 2004 meeting

Next scheduled meeting is August 21, 2004 at 9:00 a.m.

Cc: Review Board Members
Rev. Daniel A. Smilanic, Cardinal's Delegate to the Review Board
Rev. James T. Kaczorowski, Vicar for Priests
Rev. Edward D. Grace, Vicar for Priests
Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I.
MINUTES

Review Board Members Present:

Members absent:

Non-members present:
  Leah McCluskey, Professional Responsibility Administrator [PRA]
  Rev. Daniel Smilanic, Cardinal’s Delegate to the Review Board

- PRA will have copies of the revised January 10, 2004 Meeting Minutes sent to all Board members in the packets for the April 17, 2004 Review Board meeting.

I. Approval of Minutes – March 20, 2004
   • The Board approved the meeting minutes in a unanimous 5-0 vote.

II. Update from FEG's decisions from March 20, 2004 Review Board Meeting
   • PRA provided the Review Board with the information that Cardinal George accepted and supported their recommendations from March 20, 2004 concerning the following matters:

III. Case Reviews

Initial Review:
A. In the Matter of
B. In the Matter of

C. In the Matter of Rev. Michael Weston [Resigned 1993] - PFR - 100

The Review Board conducted an Initial Review regarding the allegation of

The claim is as follows: Fr. Weston massaged [redacted] at the rectory. Fr. Weston [while exposed] also humped [redacted] in the minor's bed at the [redacted] Family's home.

In a unanimous 5-0 vote, in light of the information presented, the Review Board determined that the information at least seems to be true of an offense.

Second Stage Review

D. In the Matter of
IV. Other Matters

- PRA and Fr. Smilanic provided information regarding the release of the results from the John Jay Study

Next scheduled meeting is April 17, 2004 at 9:00 a.m.

Cc: Review Board Members
Rev. Daniel Smilanic, Cardinal’s Delegate to the Review Board
Rev. James Kaczorowski, Vicar for Priests
Rev. Thomas Tivy, Vicar for Priests
Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I.
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review

Review Board Meeting
Saturday, February 21, 2009 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

MINUTES

Review Board Members Present:

Review Board Members Present Via Phone:

Review Board Members Not Present:

Non-members Present:
Leah McCluskey, Director, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review
Rev. Daniel Smilanic, Archbishop’s Delegate to the Review Board

I. Approval of Minutes
• December 6, 2008 - Minutes approved pending correction to page two, bullet point number three
• December 19, 2008 – Minutes approved
• January 20, 2009 – Minutes approved

II. Case Reviews
Initial Review
A. In the Matter of
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
H. In the Matter of Rev. Michael H. Weston (Resigned 1993) – PFR – 100

The Review Board was to conduct an Initial Review of the allegation of the sexual abuse of a minor against the former Rev. Michael Weston. A summary of the allegation is as follows: abuse took place sometime when the victim was between five and seven years old; three incidents of Fr. Weston pinning the victim to the floor, kissing him on the cheek, and grinding his body [genital contact through clothing] against the victim's body and Fr. Weston pinning the victim's arms to his sides and Fr. Weston putting his hand down the victim's pants to fondle his genitals.

The Board agreed to continue this matter to the scheduled March 21, 2009 Review Board meeting due to the fact that there was not ample time to review and discuss this matter.

Review for Cause

I. In the Matter of
III. Other Matters
- Very Rev. John Canary, Vicar General, came to introduce himself to the Board

Next scheduled meeting is Saturday, March 21, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review

Review Board Meeting
Saturday, March 21, 2009 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

MINUTES

Review Board Members Present:

Review Board Members Not Present:

Non-members Present:
Leah McCluskey, Director, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review
Rev Daniel Smilanic, Archbishop’s Delegate to the Review Board

I. Approval of Minutes
   • December 6, 2008 – Corrected Minutes approved
   • February 21, 2008 – Minutes approved

II. Case Reviews
   Initial Review
   A. In the Matter of
B. In the Matter of

C. In the Matter of

D. In the Matter of Rev. Michael Weston (Resigned 1993) – PFR - 100

The Review Board conducted an Initial Review of the allegation of the sexual abuse of a minor against the former Rev. Michael Weston. A summary of the allegation is as follows: abuse took place sometime when [redacted] was
between five and seven years old; three incidents of Fr. Weston pinning the [redacted] to the floor, kissing him on the cheek, and grinding his body [redacted] and Fr. Weston pinning [redacted] arms to his sides and Fr. Weston putting his hand down [redacted] pants to fondle his genitals.

Ms. McCluskey provided the Board with a verbal overview of this matter.

In a 7-0 vote in light of the information presented, the Board determined that this matter does warrant additional investigation. The Board also asked Ms. McCluskey to do the following:

- Ask Hillard Heintze to conduct a background check on [redacted] brother [redacted]
- If [redacted] is willing, ask Hillard Heintze to follow up with [redacted]
- Ask Hillard Heintze its recommendations for any other areas of this matter to investigate
III. Other Matters

- The Board discussed and approved certain amendments to §1100 Clerical Sexual Abuse of Minors: Policies for Education, Prevention, Assistance to Victims and Procedures for Determination of Fitness for Ministry, specifically sections §1104.9.1 and §1104.9.3, in general, these proposed amendments are concerning the current practices of the Board as it relates to the Initial Review.

Next scheduled meeting is Saturday, April 18, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
MEMORANDUM

To: File - PFR-100
From: Patty Zacharias, Professional Responsibility Assistant Administrator
Re: Weston, Michael H. (Resigned)
Date: June 8, 2005

PRAA consulted with Leah McCluskey, PRA and it was decided to make this case inactive at this time.

This was determined due to the allegation not being formalized. The last contact the Assistance Ministry had with [REDACTED] was in March, 2004. The last contact OPR had with [REDACTED] attorney was October, 2003.

Cc: Rev. Daniel Smilanic, Cardinal's Delegate to the Review Board
Rev. James Kaczorowski, Vicar for Priests
Ralph Bonaccorsi, Assistance Ministry
July 28, 2004

Ms. Leah McCluskey
Office of Professional Responsibility
676 N. St. Clair St.
Chicago, IL 60611

Dear Ms. McCluskey,

I am writing to you in order to formalize my handwritten note of July 21, 2004 in response to your letter of that same date, regarding the matter of Michael Weston, a priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago who has allegedly resigned from priestly ministry, and the allegations of sexual misconduct that were made against him by [Redacted]. I understand this matter was discussed as a Review for Cause by the Professional Responsibility Review Board on July 17, 2004.

I accept the Review Board's determination that there is reasonable cause to suspect that Michael Weston engaged in acts of sexual misconduct with a minor while still active in priestly ministry. I will also direct Rev. Daniel A. Smilanic to look into Michael Weston's precise status to see what further actions might be taken in this regard.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

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

Rev. Richard Amandi
Ecclesiastical Notary

cc: Most Reverend Edwin M. Conway, Vicar General
Rev. Daniel A. Smilanic, Cardinal’s Delegate
Rev. Patrick R. Lages, Judicial Vicar/Vicar for Canonical Services
Reverend James Kaczorowski, Vicar for Priests
Mr. Ralph Bonaccorsi, Assistance Minister
Mr. Jimmy Lago, Chancellor
Mr. John C. O’Malley, Director of Legal Services
MEMORANDUM

To: File – PFR-100

From: Leah McCluskey, Professional Responsibility Administrator

Re: Weston, Rev. Michael

Date: July 28, 2004

PRA spoke with Rev. Patrick J. O'Malley via phone today, former Vicar for Priests. Rev. James T. Kaczorowski, Vicar for Priests suggested that PRA contact Fr. O'Malley in attempts to determine Michael Weston's status as a priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago. Fr. O'Malley was Vicar for Priests at the time when Fr. Weston left the priesthood approximately eight years ago.

Fr. O'Malley informed PRA that Fr. Weston resigned. He described Fr. Weston as "not happy" at the time and recalls that Fr. Weston "flew the coop" and essentially unofficially left the priesthood. Fr. O'Malley does not believe that Fr. Weston wrote a formal letter stating his resignation. He also does not believe that Fr. Weston was given an exit package by the Archdiocese of Chicago.

PRA thanked Fr. O'Malley for his assistance with this matter. Fr. O'Malley currently resides at Mundelein Seminary and may be reached at [Redacted].

Cc: Rev. Daniel Smilanic, Cardinal's Delegate to the Review Board
Rev. James Kaczorowski, Vicar for Priests
A summary of the discussion from the Review Board Meeting on July 17, 2004:

The Review Board conducted a Review for Cause regarding the allegation of sexual misconduct made by [redacted]. The claim is as follows: massages given by Michael Weston and also humping in the nude - no penetration.

In a 7-0 vote, in light of the information presented the Board determined that there is reasonable cause to suspect that the alleged misconduct occurred. Further, the Board recommended that PRA and Fr. Smilanic determine Michael Weston's status as a priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago.
A summary of the Professional Responsibility Review Board Meeting on March 20, 2004:

The Review Board conducted an Initial Review regarding the allegation of [redacted]. The claim is as follows: Fr. Weston massaged [redacted] at the rectory. Fr. Weston [while exposed] also humped [redacted] in the minor's bed at the [redacted] Family's home.

In a unanimous 5-0 vote, in light of the information presented, the Review Board determined that the information at least seems to be true of an offense.
MEMORANDUM

To: File - PFR-100
From: Leah McCluskey, Professional Responsibility Administrator
Re: Weston, Michael [Resigned]
Date: November 4, 2003


Fr. Eddy was extremely receptive to the phone call from PRA and Fr. Kaczorowski. He stated that [came to him in the late 1970s to inform him that [were sexually abused by Michael Weston. Fr. Eddy in turn did report this information to Fr. A.J. McDonough. As per Fr. Eddy, Fr. McDonough "didn't respond well" to the report of alleged sexual abuse by Fr. Weston. The impression that Fr. Eddy received from Fr. McDonough was that unless there were "pictures [evidence of Fr. Weston sexually abusing ["], then there would be no investigation into the matter and "nothing would be done."

At the time, Fr. Eddy did speak with Fr. Weston of the allegations made against him. As per Fr. Eddy, Fr. Weston's response was that "these kids [don't know how to interpret me." After confronting Fr. Weston with the allegations, Fr. Eddy strongly warned Fr. Weston "against being around any kids."

Fr. Eddy also spoke with [at the time that their mother initially came forward. As per Fr. Eddy, all boys described that Fr. Weston "laid on top of them." He informed PRA that he has no doubt that [are telling the truth about the sexual abuse that they allege by Michael Weston.

In hindsight, Fr. Eddy feels that he should have gone to the Cardinal after receiving the previously described response from Fr. McDonough.

Cc: Rev. Daniel Smilanic, Cardinal's Delegate to the Review Board
Rev. James Kaczorowski, Vicar for Priests
Ralph Bonaccorsi, Assistance Ministry
MEMORANDUM

To: File - PFR-100
From: Leah McCluskey, Professional Responsibility Administrator
Re: Weston, Michael [Resigned]
Date: November 4, 2003

PRA received a phone call from [redacted] on November 3, 2003. [Redacted] informed PRA that within the past week she did speak with Fr. William [Bill] Eddy regarding the alleged abuse of [redacted] by Michael Weston in the late 1970s. As per [redacted], Fr. Eddy confirmed for her that when she reported the alleged abuse to him in the late 1970s, he reported it to Fr. A.J. McDonough. During their recent conversation of this matter, Fr. Eddy also informed PRA that when he reported the alleged abuse, Fr. McDonough "didn't want to hear about it." During this same recent conversation, Fr. Eddy informed [redacted] that he would be more than willing to speak with Rev. James T. Kaczorowski [Vicar for Priests] and/or PRA regarding this matter. As per [redacted], Fr. Eddy stated that he believes that [redacted] were all sexually abused by Michael Weston.

[Redacted] was informed that PRA and Fr. Kaczorowski would speak with Fr. Eddy regarding this matter. She ended the conversation by questioning how Michael Weston could continue to be a priest until 1993, if it was reported in the late 1970s that he had sexually abused [redacted]. [Redacted] also informed PRA that [redacted] after meeting with PRA and Ralph Bonaccorsi of Assistance Ministry on October 26, 2003 to formalize his allegation against Michael Weston. As per [redacted], [redacted] informed her that [redacted] after meeting with PRA and Mr. Bonaccorsi. It was explained to her that PRA would not initiate any contact with [redacted]. However, PRA requested that [redacted] suggest to [redacted] that he contact either PRA or Mr. Bonaccorsi if he becomes interested in receiving assistance [therapy] from the Archdiocese.

Cc: Rev. Daniel Smilanic, Cardinal's Delegate to the Review Board
    Rev. James Kaczorowski, Vicar for Priests
    Ralph Bonaccorsi, Assistance Ministry
MEMORANDUM

To: File - PFR-100
From: Leah McCluskey, Professional Responsibility Administrator
Re: Weston, Michael [Resigned]
Date: October 29, 2003

PRA returned two phone messages [left on October 28 and October 29, 2003] from [redacted] regarding the allegations of sexual misconduct made by [redacted] against Michael Weston.

[redacted] informed PRA that she first learned of the alleged abuse of [redacted] by [the now former] Fr. Weston during the late 1970s, sometime between 1976 and 1978. As per [redacted] Fr. Weston informed her that he would report the alleged abuse of [redacted] by Fr. Weston to A.J. Crowley. Fr. Eddy had informed [redacted] at the time that A.J. Crowley "was the person in the Archdiocese to talk to" regarding the matter. [redacted] requested that PRA determine if this conversation between Fr. Eddy and A.J. Crowley ever took place. She continued by saying that [redacted] was her understanding that Fr. Eddy reported the alleged abuse by Fr. Weston on her behalf to the appropriate authorities within the Archdiocese of Chicago.

[redacted] is certain that Fr. Weston was residing at St. Julie Billiart's "old" rectory between 1976 and 1978. She added that during the aforementioned time period, Fr. Weston was "helping out part time at St. Julie's with the altar boys" and was the Chaplain at Morraine Valley [Newman Center] and was also working with their campus ministry.

PRA informed [redacted] that this information would be shared with Rev. James Kaczorowski, Vicar for Priests. It was agreed that PRA would speak with Fr. Kaczorowski and that Michael Weston's file would be reviewed. PRA will follow up with [redacted] by calling her on Monday, November 3, 2003. [redacted] stated that she would wait to hear from PRA prior to her contacting Fr. Eddy on her own to determine if he did report the alleged abuse by Fr. Weston in the late 1970s.

Cc: Rev. Daniel Smilanic, Cardinal's Delegate to the Review Board
Rev. James Kaczorowski, Vicar for Priests
Ralph Bonaccorsi, Assistance Ministry
Memorandum

To: File - PFR-100
From: Leah McCluskey, Interim, Professional Fitness Review Administrator
Re: Rev. Michael Weston (Resigned) Response to Allegation
Date: September 13, 2002

Date of Interview: September 5, 2002  Time: 1:30pm

Present at Interview
Michael Westin [MW] (present via phone), accused
Ms. Leah McCluskey, Interim, Professional Fitness Review Administrator [PFRA]
Fr. James Kaczorowski, Vicar for Priests [VP]

Phone Interview
Michael Westin [MW] phoned the VP office promptly at 1:30pm for the scheduled interview.
PFRA introduced herself and explained the Review Board process to MW. The allegation of sexual misconduct made by [redacted] was then read to MW.

MW stated that he does know [redacted] and that he was “from St. Linus.” MW categorically denied all sexual contact with [redacted]. MW acknowledged that he did “wrestle with him [redacted] and other people [minors]” but that he did not receive any sexual gratification from such acts. MW followed up the statement regarding wrestling with “in hindsight, it [wrestling with minors] was not a good idea.”

PFRA asked MW if he recalls being present in the church with [redacted]. MW stated that he would be in the church with [redacted] when [redacted] was an altar server. In regards to having [redacted] and other minors in his room, MW stated that he did “let them [minors] in my room...and it was poor judgement [on the part of MW].” MW recalls [redacted] being in the rectory “a few times” when MW “was getting to know him [redacted].” MW stated that he had invited [redacted] up to his sitting room. At times [redacted] was alone and other times he would be with “one other boy.”

MW stated that he would visit [redacted] at the minor’s home both invited and unannounced. Over a two-year time period, MW recalls that [redacted] family would sometimes invite him over and other times MW would stop by on his bicycle. MW stated that he would visit many homes, but estimated that he visited [redacted] home 15 times over a two year time period. MW recalls that
when he would visit the home of [redacted] "sometimes he [redacted] was by himself" and other times [redacted] family would be home.

At the conclusion of MW's response to the allegations of sexual misconduct made by [redacted], PFRA explained that this case would be presented to the Review Board on September 21, 2002. MW was also informed that once any allegation is received by the Archdiocese, the State’s Attorney’s office is notified.

MW requested that any documentation sent to him via mail from the Archdiocese be mailed to the following address:

Michael Weston [redacted]

Cc: Review Board Members
Rev. Thomas J. Paprocki, Cardinal’s Delegate to the Review Board
Rev. James Kaczorowski, Vicar for Priests
Victim Assistance Ministry
John O'Malley, Legal Services
September 16, 1993

Dear Father Weston:

In light of your letter of September 9, 1993, as well as our conversation and those with the Vicars for Priests, I hereby accept your resignation from the active ministry, effective immediately.

Please be in contact with Father Patrick O'Malley regarding the necessary arrangements.

Mike, if in the future you desire to return to active ministry, know your request will be considered. I must make it clear, however, that it would only be under the conditions made to you prior to your departure. I trust your understanding in this matter.

I would like to offer my deep appreciation for the work you have done during these past twenty years of service to the Archdiocese. It is my hope that you will draw satisfaction from all you have done for the spread of the Gospel.

With cordial good wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Kenneth Veio
Ecclesiastical Notary

Reverend Michael H. Weston
c/o Saint Eulalia Parish
1851 S. 9th Avenue
Maywood, Illinois 60153

cc: Reverend James V. Quinlan
Reverend Patrick J. O'Malley
Diocesan Priests' Placement Board
Cardinal

I resign from priesthood. Do not notify anyone of it, until I am notified that it is accepted.

M. Weston

St. Eulalia Church
1851 South Ninth Ave
Maywood, Illinois 60153
August 18, 1993

Dear Mike:

This letter is a follow-up to our brief telephone discussion this morning.

You requested that I give you until the end of the month to decide whether to accept the plan presented to you by Father Patrick O'Malley - a plan which I fully endorse. While I indicated that I would give you the additional time, there will be no more extensions. You must let me or Father O'Malley know your decision by August 31. You know the consequences of refusal.

I plead with you, Mike, to accept for the sake of your own well-being. At this point, you are your own worst enemy. The rest of us want to help you; please let us.

With cordial good wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Archbishop of Chicago

cc: Father Pat O'Malley

Reverend Michael Weston
St. Eulalia Parish
1851 S. 9th Ave.
Maywood, IL 60153
Memo to File
From: Rev. Patrick O'Malley
Date: 6/30/93
Re: Michael Weston

Fr. Andy McDonagh and I met with Fr. Frank Kane and Carol Eipers of the Office of Religious Education today to discuss Michael Weston. We split our discussion into two areas. Number one, we talked about his employment at the Office of Religious Education. It is becoming a very difficult thing. Both Frank and Carol came to the conclusion that he should no longer be employed there. They would meet him immediately after they talked to us. I heard later that they had done that.

Number two, we talked about the drinking. Carol gave Fr. McDonagh memos and names of people who did smell liquor on Mike's breath. No one saw him drinking. And while there were a couple of outbreaks at two staff meetings, they could not say that there was any aberrant behavior due to the drinking.

I had promised Mike that I would meet with him, Fr. Bill O'Brien and Fr. Jim Quinlan for a conversation concerning Mike's health, his well-being, how they see him at this time. Later on on this day, I received a phone call from Bill O'Brien, who is open to that. Bill had received a call from Carol Eipers and had proceeded to call Mike himself, but had to leave a message.

One additional bit of information was that at the party that some priests had for George Sarauskas two weeks ago, Mike indeed had several drinks. Apparently at some point he got angry and there was a bit of an argument. But he was drinking after denying to me that he drank when I met with him a week ago this coming Friday. After my meeting with Weston, O'Brien and Quinlan, I will tell Mike that I need to sit down with and decide what our response will be.
Memo to File
From: Rev. Patrick O'Malley
Date: 6/16/93
Re: Michael Weston

I spoke to Carol Eipers at the Office of Catholic Education on Tuesday, June 14. She relayed the following information to me concerning Michael Weston.

She feels that his behavior has been deteriorating lately. A month ago there was an angry outburst at a staff meeting. Carol said that at the time, she knew Mike's mother was sick and so she ignored that outburst, attributing it to the pressure that he was under.

A week ago, on June 4, at the staff meeting, there was another outburst. He expressed dissatisfaction about his role at the Office of Catholic Education. He wanted to know who had handed in dates for the newsletter for which he is responsible. He was very angry that someone had done it. It turns out that upon investigation that he himself with his own hand-writing had submitted those dates.

On Tuesday, June 8, Carol Eipers called Michael in to talk to him. She told him that his behavior at staff meetings was out of line, that people don't deserve that kind of treatment. She told him that she was willing to have him stay, but he would have to change his behavior.

According to Carol, Michael counter-attacked. He told her it was miserable working there. That morale was bad and that it was emotionally oppressive and abusive at the office. He indicated that a number of people on the staff were disturbed about the office and the way it was being conducted. He told Carol that she was a manipulative person. When she asked what that meant, he said "You make me do things I don't want to do."

Afterwards, Carol was concerned that possibly she might be out of touch with her own staff and that they were feeling this way and she was not aware of it. She decided to go around and talk to them. In the meantime, several people came to her with complaints about Mike, saying that they had been approached by Mike with a list of things that he thought were wrong. He was apparently trying to enlist their help.
Specifically, one of the consultors and one of the secretaries experienced this.

At any rate, Carol went around and said she talked to 18 or 20 of her people. Although some people had some complaints about the way the office was run, no one raised the points that Mike had raised. Indeed, several of the people were angry with Mike that he was trying to drag them into something that they did not want to be part of.

Carol said that one of the youngest employees, a young woman who works the switchboard, asked her mother, who also works there, whether Fr. Weston had a drinking problem. The mother reported this to Carol and Carol asked the mother to go back to her daughter and find out why she said this. The daughter said that she smelled liquor on his breath. At the June 4 meeting, two of the people present said that he smelled of alcohol at that time. Wednesday, June 9, an assistant director smelled alcohol on his breath in his office. Carol sent another assistant director down to check this out and she too came back saying she also smelled the alcohol. Carol then called us and Ken Velo on last Thursday, June 10. She was unable to get us. She tried to call Bill O'Brien, whom she knows Mike does listen to.

Carol told Pat the entire story. Pat said, "Have you confronted him? You need to confront him." So Carol said she would. She called Mike in, told him that she knew he was drinking. She knew that Mike had not ___________ on Monday when he was supposed to be there. Carol confronted him on Thursday, June 11 and he was supposed to have a ___________ Friday morning Mike called in sick to the OCE. When Carol called him with some information about another topic, he was not at home. On Monday of this past week, that is June 13, he was in the office. He had been talking with Bill O'Brien.

Carol talked to Frank Kane on Monday. Frank talked to the Cardinal. On Tuesday, June 14, Carol talked to Bill O'Brien for an hour and a half. Bill is willing to assist in any way he can. Bill says he does not know about the drinking outside of the fact that Carol has told him. He does not know anything about the drinking problem from Mike.
At any rate, Carol is willing to assist in any way to do what she can.

I then called Fr. Andy McDonagh of [REDACTED], to get his input. He feels that Carol should call Mike in and tell him he must go for treatment. If he does not go for treatment, then she will let him go.

In the late afternoon of June 14, I called
Memo to File
From: Rev. Patrick O'Malley
Date: 1/4/93
Re: Rev. Michael Weston

The Cardinal told John Canary and me after our Advisory Board meeting today that he will be meeting with Michael Weston. Priest friends of Mike have called the Cardinal and said that Weston does not want to resign from the priesthood. We told the Cardinal that Weston really should get help at this time. I recalled to him how this matter came to our attention in the first place. There was an allegation made by a young man in Kalamazoo. We believe that some of Mike's problems have to do with his addiction. The Cardinal should not let him off the hook on this matter. We instructed the Cardinal to tell Weston that he has to go to Guest House for that initial assessment. Depending on the assessment then, we will work out whatever the future holds.

Weston's mother still lives in the area and she has been a great problem for him. Is there anyway that he could get help in the area around here? We will need to discuss this matter further.
Michael Weston came to see me today. He has decided he will leave the priesthood. He is a very angry young man and says that his anger goes back over a number of years. I reiterated our concern about his health and the possibility of...
As I said, Michael was very angry, as he has been from the beginning of this process. He feels that he has not been understood or helped in any way since this process started. He also said that this goes back many years. He planned on leaving some years back but changed his mind at the time, about six years ago.
Memo to File
From: Rev. Patrick O'Malley
Date: 11/18/92
Re: Michael Weston

Rev. Andrew McDonagh and I met with Fr. Michael Weston '73 this morning.

Andy talked to Michael about his need to go up to get a ______ assessment. If ______ then he may come back. Mike said he had to think that over. He said he would get back to us on Monday, the 23rd of November. He does have a project up until Dec. 1 which he wants to work on with Carol Eipers. After Andy left the room, I spoke to Michael who wanted to talk to me alone. He wants to take a leave of absence at this time.

I asked him to make sure that his reasons for seeking such a leave of absence do not have to do with the anger he is feeling about this testing. He feels that it is something that he has to look at. He said he would like to talk to Jerry Broccolo and will try to get hold of him over the weekend. He will be back to me on Monday, the 23rd to see if he has anything more to say. I explained to him very quickly what the steps toward seeking a leave of absence are. Again, I suggested that he see a Spiritual Director about this matter. He said that he will do his own thing.

After Mike left, I spoke to John Canary and Andy McDonagh about the situation. Andy says we must insist that he go to get treatment before he takes either a sabbatical or a leave of absence. We must make sure that he gets the help that he needs at this time. The only sanction we have in that regard is salary and we will need to talk about this in the future.
October 11, 1992

Rev. John Grathwohl
421 Monroe Street
Kalamazoo, Michigan 49007

Dear John,

I'm writing to keep you and [redacted] informed as to what has happened with Fr. Michael Weston. I met with Mike this past week and we discussed [redacted] letter and Michael faced up to it immediately. He did not agree with all of [redacted] conclusions nor your conclusions about his behavior, but he is willing to seek whatever help is necessary at this time.

In these kinds of situations, our normal procedure is to get a psychological assessment of a priest and also to see what kind of counseling or therapy is asked for. Also, we would ask a priest, as part of our normal procedure, to get an alcoholic dependency assessment. [redacted] I wish to guarantee both of you that we will follow up with Mike and I must say he is open to it at this time.

If you have any more questions about our procedures in this matter, don't hesitate to call. Because of mental health confidentiality considerations, I am limited in what I can tell you. I'm sure you understand that. But please also understand and assure [redacted] that we are taking this matter seriously and will do all we can to follow up on it.

Fraternally yours,

Rev. Patrick O'Malley
Vicar for Priests
Rev. John Grathwohl
St. Thomas More Student Parish
421 Monroe Street
Kalamazoo, Michigan 49007

Dear John,

I'm a little late getting back to you with this letter of acknowledgement. We received your letter and ______ letter in mid-September, but I was away on vacation at the time. I did want to write to let you know what is happening.

Due to some workshops that we have been giving around the diocese concerning sexual misconduct with minors, I have been extremely busy and have not had the opportunity to meet with Mike and to share with him the content of ______ letter. I will be doing that at the very first opportunity.

Of course, I need to hear his side of the story but I will present to him both ______ version and your support of ______ Where we go from that point is yet to be determined.

Please thank ______ for me personally for having the courage to come forward with this information. Assure him that we will act on it as best we can. Thanks also for your help and give my best to Bishop Donovan. I'll keep in contact and let you know what happens.

Fraternally yours,

Rev. Patrick O'Malley
Vicar for Priests
September 8, 1992

Dear Father:

The young man who wrote the attached letter, came to me last week to let me know he was going to send this to your office and asked me to assist him in writing it. I told him he should write it himself, saying what he thought should be said and express it in his own way. I did agree to enclose a letter of support.

He is a very stable and secure young man and I believe he is most credible. I have known him throughout his years at St. Thomas More; he has been involved in all aspects of our student parish, especially our student ministry. I am fully convinced that his motives in writing this are exactly as he expresses.

I shared this matter with our ordinary, Paul Donovan, and he suggested I also include my observations about Mike Weston. Mike worked with us here at St. Thomas for three years, on leave from Chicago. We got along fairly well but our paths didn’t cross very often so that I never got to know Mike very well. Most of what I learned about Mike I heard second hand from students. Mike spent a lot of time socializing with students at the local gathering places and they would say that after a couple of drinks Mike was much different and would reveal many personal things about himself. They would also say how Mike would single out a few males with whom he became very friendly and would display his friendship with hugging and physical closeness. I did observe first hand that there were three or four students(male) with whom he spent a lot of time in his office, either individually or together. One of them a little over a year ago and I, along with others, had fears that it might have had something to do with the relationship he had with Mike. To my knowledge, Mike never visited him in the hospital which I thought was quite unusual, considering their friendship. After Mike left St. Thomas parish he would return from Chicago often, almost every weekend for quite a few months, but he would never stay at the rectory, even though he knew he was most welcome and there were three extra bedrooms. He would stay with students. However, during the three years that Mike lived at the rectory and worked in the parish with me, I never saw any concrete, tangible evidence of homosexual tendencies or activity on Mike’s part. I should also point out that Mike never drank in my presence at the rectory or anywhere else.
Please feel free to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Your brother in Christ,

John Grathwohl
Pastor
1. In a conversation with Ken Velo, he mentioned that the Cardinal has approved Mike's going to Western Michigan. The Cardinal was angry before he met with Mike because he had sought out the assignment without any permission. But after seeing Mike and realizing how frustrated and discouraged he was, the Cardinal had a change of heart.

2. Ken Velo said that he had called Tom Raftery to see how Tom would feel about Mike leaving there. Ken was conscious of the fact that we had taken Dan Coughlin away from him a few years ago and he wanted to make sure that this was not going to be too upsetting to Tom Raftery. Actually, Tom said that he never felt Mike was very happy there. In fact, people would even ask Tom if Mike was happy. Apart from dealing with the kids pretty well, Mike doesn't have much contact with the adult population. Tom would rather see Mike get this new assignment if it would make him happy. Tom said that he could get by with a resident, so Ken is going to see if he can get George Rassas to go to Tom's parish.
- Made changes things at Mass.
- Mike gave up Fellowship Committee because of some tension.
- Mike is doing well with the teen.
- Tom doesn’t think there is cause for alarm.

- We will have a parish forum soon to surface issues. Perhaps something will surface about Mike.
- He was disappointed at not getting the Fellowship Office job.

(I heard specifically Bob the Taughlin had expressed concern about Mike—depressed, bad relationships W. parishes.)
August 18, 2009

Re: [Redacted]

Dear Mr. [Redacted]:

In response to your letter dated August 12, 2009 stating that you represent [Redacted], enclosed is our standard form of "questionnaire" for [Redacted]. The questionnaire appears lengthy, since it must address many different types of cases. We do not want it to be burdensome. To the extent that [Redacted] has provided the information in previous communications with the Archdiocesan Office of Child Abuse Investigation and Review (CAIR), it need not be repeated here. Similarly, if there are portions that are inapplicable, simply indicate this on the form. Unless [Redacted] is seeking economic losses, we do not usually require tax information.

The principal questions here will involve injuries. You may want to consider whether [Redacted], brother [Redacted], or other family members, are willing to give statements concerning events during 1973-75, or since then. We will not initiate contact with other family members without your knowledge.

It appears from the documents that a continuing consequence for [Redacted] is acute anger at the Church. In many cases, there are extra-legal procedures that can promote reconciliation. Among these is a personal meeting with Cardinal George, which can be arranged after the claim is settled. I mention this because it may be particularly appropriate in this case.

In addition, now or at any time, [Redacted] may contact Mr. Matthew Hunnicutt (312-751-8267), Director of Assistance Ministry for the Archdiocese, for pastoral assistance or therapy (at the Archdiocese’s expense) from a licensed therapist of your client’s choice. The
services of the Office of Assistance Ministry were presumably explained to [redacted] at the time of his interactions with CAIR.

Feel free to call me regarding any aspect of our procedures.

Very truly yours,

Enc.

cc: Leah McCluskey w/o enc. (via facsimile)
Matthew Hunnicutt w/o enc. (via facsimile)
MEMORANDUM

To: PFR-100
From: Leah McCluskey, Professional Fitness Review Administrator
Re: MICHAEL WESTON'S (RESIGNED) RESPONSE TO ALLEGATION OF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT BY [REDACTED]
Date: February 21, 2003

Date of Interview: February 13, 2003
Time of Interview: 2:00 p.m.

Present at Interview
Mr. Michael Weston [MW]
Ms. Leah McCluskey, Professional Fitness Review Administrator [PFRA]
Rev. James Kaczorowski, Vicar for Priests [VP]

Phone Interview
Fr. James Kaczorowski [VP] contacted Mr. Michael Weston [MW] via phone at 2:00pm for the scheduled teleconference. PFRA met with VP at the Vicar for Priests Office and the call to MW was placed upon PFRA's arrival. The meeting took place in the form of a teleconference at MW's request to VP. To the knowledge of PFRA and VP, there was no one present with MW while the allegations were read to him by PFRA. MW was extremely cooperative during the interview.

After introductions were made, PFRA described the responsibilities of the Office of Professional Fitness Review as well as those of PFRA. PFRA also explained to MW the Review Board process. It was clarified for MW that PFRA had [REDACTED] in January of 2003 to re-interview [REDACTED] in order to obtain additional information regarding [REDACTED] original allegation of sexual misconduct against MW. It was the information obtained by PFRA at the January 2003 meeting that would be read to MW. The original allegation report and original response as well as the most recent allegation report and response would be presented to the Review Board for a Second Stage review. PFRA informed MW to please stop PFRA if he had any questions or had difficulty understanding what was being read to him. MW stated that he understood all information presented to him.

PFRA read the allegation in its entirety prior to any response to MW. His initial reply to the allegation was, "I can't comment at all about personal history [of [REDACTED]]" MW continued, "That [the alleged sexual abuse] didn't happen." However, MW stated, "I remember wrestling [with
In response to the details of the allegation, MW stated, "I also denied drinking wine "with anyone in the sacristy.""

He also denied taking down his pants in front of MW if he had taken down his pants or if he had taken down his pants. MW replied, "That never happened any time I was in the ministry. I never touched anyone’s genitals or had anyone touch mine."

PFRA then asked MW if he had any questions. He replied that he did not. "Some of the things [as alleged by MW] just didn’t happen. I don’t remember." MW then asked why some of the letters that he has received from this office have been addressed as "Fr. and/or Rev." PFRA apologized for the mistake and assured him that would not occur in future communications with him via mail.

Cc: Review Board Members
    Bishop-Elect Thomas J. Paprocki, Cardinal’s Delegate to the Review Board
    Rev. James Kaczorowski, Vicar for Priests
    Ralph Bonaccorsi, Victim Assistance Ministry
    John O’Malley, Legal Services
Memorandum

To: File – PFR-100

From: Leah McCluskey, Interim, Professional Fitness Review Administrator

Re: Rev. Michael Weston (Resigned) Response to Allegation of

Date: September 13, 2002

Date of Interview: September 5, 2002 Time: 1:30pm

Present at Interview
Michael Westin [MW] (present via phone), accused
Ms. Leah McCluskey, Interim, Professional Fitness Review Administrator [PFRA]
Fr. James Kaczorowski, Vicar for Priests [VP]

Phone Interview
Michael Westin [MW] phoned the VP office promptly at 1:30pm for the scheduled interview. PFRA introduced herself and explained the Review Board process to MW. The allegation of sexual misconduct made by MW was then read to MW.

MW stated that he does know and that he was MW categorically denied all sexual contact with MW acknowledged that he did “wrestle with him and other people [minors]” but that he did not receive any sexual gratification from such acts. MW followed up the statement regarding wrestling with “in hindsight, it was not a good idea.”

PFRA asked MW if he recalls being present in the church with MW stated that he would be in the church with MW stated that he did “let them [minors] in my room...and it was poor judgement [on the part of MW].” MW recalls being in the rectory “a few times” when MW “was getting to know him.” MW stated that he had invited up to his sitting room. At times was alone and other times he would be with “one other boy.”

MW stated that he would visit at the minor’s home both invited and unannounced. Over a two-year time period, MW recalls that family would sometimes invite him over and other times MW would stop by on his bicycle. MW stated that he would visit many homes, but estimated that he visited home 15 times over a two year time period. MW recalls that
when he would visit the home of... "sometimes he... was by himself" and other times...
family would be home.

At the conclusion of MW’s response to the allegations of sexual misconduct made by...
PFRA explained that this case would be presented to the Review Board on September 21, 2002.
MW was also informed that once any allegation is received by the Archdiocese, the State’s
Attorney’s office is notified.

MW requested that any documentation sent to him via mail from the Archdiocese be mailed to
the following address:

Michael Weston

Cc: Review Board Members
   Rev. Thomas J. Paprocki, Cardinal’s Delegate to the Review Board
   Rev. James Kaczorowski, Vicar for Priests
   Victim Assistance Ministry
   John O’Malley, Legal Services
MEMORANDUM

To: File - PFR-100

From: Leah McCluskey, Professional Fitness Review Administrator

Re: Weston, Michael (Resigned)

Date: March 11, 2003

PFRA spoke with Michael Weston [MW] via phone on March 9, 2003 regarding the allegations of sexual misconduct made against him by [redacted]. MW informed PFRA that there was additional information that he would like to have presented to the Review Board in addition to his formal response to the aforementioned allegation.

MW informed PFRA that he felt as if [redacted] had “bent [past] interactions [between MW and [redacted]]” to make them sound as if they were sexual innuendoes that were not true. MW then explained to PFRA the beginnings of his history in the priesthood. When he was an intern in the seminary and ordained as a deacon, MW informed Fr. Paul Becktold [Passionist] that he wanted to work with adults. MW’s request for assignments in order of preference was: to be assigned uptown [in Chicago], to be assigned in the inner city, and to be assigned to the suburbs. Despite his requests, MW was assigned to St. Joseph’s in Libertyville as a deacon. When MW was ordained a priest, he had requested the following assignments in order of preference: the inner city, the city, and the suburbs. MW was then assigned to St. Linus, where he was informed by Fr. John Carter that he [MW] would be “in charge of the school.” MW requested that the description of his responsibilities be changed to a type of school liaison. During this point in his life, MW stated that he was interested in more “social work” than anything and he had not wanted to work with children, but wanted to work with adults.

When assigned to St. Linus, he informed PFRA that he rode his bike around the parish to “meet people.” While meeting parishioners, MW was asked if he would be “going into the school” due to the fact that no other priests had worked within the school prior to him. MW stated that he had also attended “games [sporting events]” to meet and speak with the parents of the students of St. Linus. He added that he was not interested in sports or spending time with the children. When MW was assigned to St. Linus, he had attempted to become involved with the school board “and those kinds of things” but that the positions were already filled by other priests. MW again emphasized that he had wanted to work with adults and other faculty prior to and during
his assignment to St. Linus. He informed PFRA that he was “never interested in any child-related activities.”

MW described himself as “outraged” that “made me out to be a sexual predator.” In regards to the allegation that MW was in a minor’s bedroom, MW stated, “I have no physical evidence of that.” MW also added, “In response to the allegation that MW was in the minor’s bedroom, MW stated that the only time that he was in parishioners’ bedrooms was when he would visit families and receive a “grand tour” of the home.

MW then stated that he “barely remembers” let alone “and as alleged by MW stated that.” Also in response to the allegation, MW stated that he “never disrobed in front of anyone or disrobed anyone ever.” He concluded his remarks to PFRA by stating, “Those things [allegation by MW never happened...I don’t know what the motivation [by MW] is for.”

PFRA informed MW that this matter would be presented to the Review Board on Saturday, March 15, 2003.

Cc: Review Board Members
Bishop-Elect Thomas J. Paprocki, Cardinal’s Delegate to the Review Board
Rev. James Kaczorowski, Vicar for Priests
Ralph Bonaccorsi, Victim Assistance Ministry
John O’Malley, Legal Services
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MEMORANDUM

To: File - PFR - 100

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

Re: Weston, Rev. Michael [Resigned]

Date: December 22, 2008

On December 19, 2008, I received a voice mail message from Rev. Steven Lanza, pastor of St. Julie Billiart in Tinley Park. Fr. Lanza stated that he and his associate Rev. Artur Sowa had met earlier that day with a man who said that he was sexually abused by a former priest. Fr. Lanza identified the man as [redacted], phone number [redacted]. As per Fr. Lanza, [redacted] told him and his associate the name of the former priest and had verbally told them of the alleged abuse, as well as providing them with a written copy of the details of the abuse. Fr. Lanza told [redacted] that he would call my office and provide me with the information that [redacted] had shared.

Fr. Lanza asked for a return call at [redacted].

I called and spoke with Fr. Lanza on December 19th. As per Fr. Lanza, [redacted] had called the rectory the day prior and asked to meet with a priest immediately. Due to the fact that Fr. Lanza was busy the morning of December 19th, Fr. Sowa had scheduled the meeting for December 19th with [redacted]. As per Fr. Lanza, Fr. Sowa called him and asked him to be a part of the meeting with [redacted] when [redacted] disclosed the abuse.

Fr. Lanza stated that he joined the meeting that had included Fr. Sowa, [redacted], and [redacted]. As per Fr. Lanza, [redacted] at St. Julie Billiart and that Rev. Michael Weston sexually abused him. Fr. Lanza said that [redacted] told him and Fr. Sowa that [redacted]. He said that
expressed his concern that he does not want Fr. Weston to be abusing any other children anymore.

I thanked Fr. Lanza for the information and told him that I would follow up with .

I called and spoke with today. Originally when I called the number that provided to Fr. Lanza, the call went to voicemail with a female’s voice stating that I had reached and to leave a message. I did not leave a message and was in the process of calling Fr. Lanza to check the phone number, when returned my call. said that he saw that I had called and wanted to call me back. I explained to that I did not want to leave a voice mail message, as I did not know if I had the correct phone number.

I thanked for his return phone call and verbally provided him with information on the Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review, the process of an individual formalizing an allegation of the sexual abuse of a minor against a cleric, and the Office of Assistance Ministry.

asked me if Fr. Weston has any other allegations against him. I told that Fr. Weston is no longer a priest and that he has at least one substantiated allegation of the sexual abuse of a minor against him. at St. Julie Billiart when Fr. Weston abused him on two occasions. said that he wanted to meet to formalize his allegation as soon as possible.

When asked, provided his birth date of . Also when asked, identified his abuser as Michael Weston. provided the clarification that the abuse took place at St. Julie’s [Billiart] when he was seven or eight years old, approximately 1970.

It was agreed that I would speak with Matt Hunnicutt of the Office of Assistance Ministry to determine if he would be available to meet with and me on either December 30th in the afternoon or December 31st in the morning. When asked, said that I could reach him at and that I could leave a message at that number if necessary.
I called and spoke with [redacted] on December 23\textsuperscript{rd} and confirmed a meeting for Wednesday, December 31\textsuperscript{st} at 10:00am in this office.
Memo

To: File
From: Fr. Lanza
CC: Fr. Sowa
Date: December 19, 2008
Re: Alleged Abuse of a Minor at St. Julie Parish

Fr. Sowa met with [redacted] who reported to him that (former) Fr. Mike Weston engaged in abuse (specifically, wrestling with him and with his older brother) when they were altar boys in the basement of their home. [redacted] wrote up an account and presented Fr. Sowa with it in his appointment here today.

Fr. Sowa apprised me of this allegation and asked for advice on how to proceed. I spoke with [redacted] who accompanied him, and then called Leah McCluskey’s office. I left a paper message with the secretary, as well as a voice message on Leah’s extension, asking her to call me and providing her with [redacted] name and phone number (telling her that he would like to talk to her).

[redacted] He would also like to ensure that Mike Weston does not have the opportunity to abuse any other minor.

I also called the dean, Fr. Upton—to give him an FYI on this and to find out if he knew when Mike Weston was ordained. He pointed me in the direction of the Archdiocesan website listing of priests with substantiated allegations.
Memo

To: Fr. John Canary, Fr. John Collins, Fr. Vince Costello; Colleen Dolan; Carol Fowler, Jimmy Lago, Leah McCluskey, John O'Malley, Jan Slattery.

CC: Maryann Fox, Jan Leonatti, Deacon Dan Welter.

From: Fr. Dan Smilanic.

Date: February 9, 2010.


The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, having received and studied the acta of the case, supported the request of the Cardinal that Michael Weston be laicized ex officio, and they dispensed from the requirement of a judicial process. On October 30, 2009, the Holy Father decreed that Michael Howard Weston be dismissed from the clerical state ex officio et pro bono Ecclesiae. The Rescript of laicization asked that Michael Weston sign both copies of the decree in attestation that he had been informed of his laicization and the precepts associated with it. On December 29, 2009 he was sent a photocopy of the Rescript (in the original Latin), an unofficial translation and a letter explaining that he had been laicized that asked him to schedule an appointment to sign both copies of the decree. The letter presented several options for that appointment, and asked that he contact either myself or Deacon Dan Welter by January 19, 2010. He never contacted either of us. The Cardinal has signed both copies of the Rescript, and his signature has been notarized by Jimmy Lago.

Pursuant to that -

1. One original will be returned to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith with a cover letter from Cardinal Francis George OMI. Accompanying it will be a copy of the December 29th letter sent to Michael Weston and a photocopy of the receipts of Registered Mail from the Post Office.

2. The other original will be filed in Michael H Weston's Chancery file, along with all the associated materials (e.g., receipts of Registered Mail from the Post Office, etc.) Access to his file is to be done through the Chancellor.

3. The effective date of the laicization of Michael Howard Weston is October 30, 2009; in this type of laicization, the effective date is the date of the decision of the Holy Father.

4. Of note is paragraph 6 of the Rescript (from the 'unofficial translation'):

"The Ordinary should take care, as much as is possible, lest the new condition of the dismissed priest engender scandal among the faithful. Yet, if there is present a danger of the abuse of minors, the Ordinary is able to make known the fact of the dismissal and also the canonical reasons."
5. In accord with Canons 535, §2 and 1054, a request has been sent to the parish of his baptism asking that the entry that records his baptism now also note his laicization and his release from all the corresponding obligations, including that of celibacy. As with all laicized clergy, the parish has been instructed that whenever a certificate attesting to his baptism is issued, there is not to be any mention of his ordinations, nor should there be any mention of the obligation of celibacy.

6. Any inquiries about his return to the lay state should be referred to the Chancellor of the Archdiocese of Chicago. In the letter to his parish of Baptism, it was requested that this also should be noted in the baptismal entry.

7. The associated precepts are similar to the precepts associated with all types of laicizations. They are (from the 'unofficial translation'):

   a. he is excluded from the exercise of the sacred ministry, with the exception of those functions mentioned in canons 976 and 986, §2, and for this reason he cannot give a homily, nor is he able to hold any office that entails pastoral leadership nor to hold any office involving parochial administration;

   b. he may not exercise any office in seminaries and similar institutions. In other institutions of higher learning, which depend in anyway upon ecclesiastical authority, he may not hold any position of authority or teaching;

   c. in other institutions of higher studies that are not dependent on ecclesiastical authority, he may not teach any theological discipline;

   d. in institutions of a lower level of studies that are dependent on ecclesiastical authority, he may not exercise any administrative or teaching function. The same restriction remains for the dismissed and dispensed priest from teaching religion even in institutions of the same nature that are not dependent upon ecclesiastical authority.
**CLERGY RECORD TRANSFER FORM**

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All files attached by David Deitz, Archivist.
DECLARATION

IN THE NAME OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY. AMEN

(1) Whereas Michael H. Weston, born on [redacted] was ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago on May 9, 1973 at St. Mary of the Lake Seminary, Mundelein, Illinois, and

(2) Whereas he left the active ministry in 1993, and contrary to Canons 273 and 274, §2, has shown no inclination whatsoever to return to the active ministry, thus demonstrating a lack of canonical obedience to the Holy Father and the Ordinary of the Archdiocese,

I, Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I., by the grace of God and the favor of the Apostolic See, Archbishop of Chicago, do hereby declare:

a) That Michael H. Weston has no authorization whatsoever to act as an agent of this Archdiocese;
b) that he is no longer affiliated as a priest in any way with the Archdiocese of Chicago;
c) that he is not to represent himself as a Roman Catholic priest with canonical faculties, nor is he to present himself as a ‘Catholic priest in good standing’;
d) that the Archdiocese does not consider itself in any way responsible for the activities of Michael H. Weston, and
e) that the Archdiocese is not to be held liable for any scandal or harm to souls for which he has been or is responsible.

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

May 19, 2005

+Raymond E. Goedert
Most Rev. Raymond E. Goedert
Ecclesiastical Notary
Memo

To: Father Pat O'Malley
From: Cardinal Bernardin
Re: Father Michael Weston
Date: February 8, 1993

After receiving your memo of January 29, I asked Mike Weston to come in. He visited me this morning.

I told him that he had to settle on this and make the necessary arrangements with you, as I had indicated in my earlier letter.

Since he will be away tomorrow, he will call you on Wednesday. The poor man is so depressed and bruised I don’t know what will happen to him.

I have spoken again with Carole Eipers who is willing to assume some responsibility as a supervisor. As I see it, what we are doing now is probably an interim step to get him to see that he needs further help.

Let’s talk after he calls you on Wednesday.
Memo
To:     Cardinal Bernardin
From:   Rev. Patrick O'Malley
Date:   1/29/93
Re:     Michael Weston

I re-read your letter of January 6, 1993, summarizing your meeting with Mike Weston. Mike still has not contacted me. We believe that some assessment has to take place and I know you concur with that. But I think we definitely have to move on it as quickly as possible. Mike is going to deny and deny and use every means to get around dealing with his problem. I am afraid that he may use his threat to leave the priesthood as a lever to persuade us to back off on that. I personally think that this needs a much quicker resolution than what we are facing at the present.

Again, I would like to suggest that there be a good assessment immediately. That would accompany his seeking out a counselor. At any rate, we probably need to talk about Mike and what are our specific next steps. I know that Carol Eipers, with whom I spoke recently, is very much concerned for his welfare as are you and as are we. We have to continue to confront Mike in this matter or run the risk of him never facing up to the problem of his addictions.
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<td>5/9/73</td>
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THE DIOCESAN CLERGY PERSONNEL BOARD
OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

MINUTES
Meeting No. 93 - The Fourth Board

Meeting: Tuesday, May 13, 1975 - Meeting began at 10:39 A.M.

Present: Mockenhaupt, McDonagh, Kelly, Upton, Hardiman, Adams and Zawistanowicz

Place: Clergy Personnel Board Office

1. Minutes of Meeting No. 92, approved.

3. Agenda: Additions:

   Michael Weston and Circle Campus.

   Agenda approved with above additions.
M. Weston and Circle Campus—was about to express his reservations about Weston for Circle Campus, when the Cardinal said that he would appoint him to that position. It was reminded that it is inadvisable to list a man who would not be acceptable.
8. Meeting adjourned at 2:00 P. M.