

1

STATE OF MINNESOTA                      IN DISTRICT COURT  
COUNTY OF RAMSEY                      SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT

DOE 1,  
Plaintiff,  
vs.  
ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. PAUL AND  
MINNEAPOLIS, DIOCESE OF WINONA  
and THOMAS ADAMSON,  
Defendants.

Videotape deposition of THOMAS  
ADAMSON, taken pursuant to Notice of Taking  
Deposition, and taken before Gary W. Hermes, a  
Notary Public in and for the County of Ramsey,  
State of Minnesota, on the 16th day of May,  
2014, at 117 East Center Street, Rochester,  
Minnesota, commencing at approximately 10:10  
o'clock a.m.

AFFILIATED COURT REPORTERS  
2935 OLD HIGHWAY 8  
ST. PAUL, MN 55113 (612)338-4348

3	
1	EXAMINATION BY MR. ANDERSON.....5
2	EXAMINATION BY MR. WIESER.....230
3	EXAMINATION BY MR. BRAUN.....234
4	RE-EXAMINATION BY MR. ANDERSON.....238
5	BEGINNING OF TAPE 1.....4
6	BEGINNING OF TAPE 2.....49
7	BEGINNING OF TAPE 3.....144
8	DEPOSITION EXHIBIT 99.....23
9	DEPOSITION EXHIBIT 100.....23
10	DEPOSITION EXHIBIT 101.....24
11	DEPOSITION EXHIBIT 102.....24
12	DEPOSITION EXHIBIT 98.....24
13	DEPOSITION EXHIBIT A.....94
14	DEPOSITION EXHIBIT 103.....131
15	DEPOSITION EXHIBIT 104.....132
16	DEPOSITION EXHIBIT 106.....133
17	DEPOSITION EXHIBIT 105.....134
18	DEPOSITION EXHIBIT AA.....180
19	DEPOSITION EXHIBIT AB.....180
20	DEPOSITION EXHIBIT 47.....197
21	DEPOSITION EXHIBIT 2A.....200
22	DEPOSITION EXHIBIT 5.....201
23	DEPOSITION EXHIBIT 6.....203
24	DEPOSITION EXHIBIT 17.....205
25	DEPOSITION EXHIBIT 19.....207

2

1 APPEARANCES:

2 JEFFREY R. ANDERSON, ESQ., MICHAEL G.  
3 FINNEGAN, ESQ., Attorneys at Law, 366 Jackson  
4 Street, Suite 100, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101,  
5 appeared for Plaintiff.

6 INGA K. SCHUCHARD, ESQ., Attorney at  
7 Law, 30 East 7th Street, Suite 3200, St. Paul,  
8 Minnesota 55101, appeared for Archdiocese of  
9 St. Paul and Minneapolis.

10 THOMAS B. WIESER, ESQ., Attorney at  
11 Law, 2200 Bremer Tower, 445 Minnesota Street,  
12 St. Paul, Minnesota 55101, appeared for  
13 Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis.

14 THOMAS R. BRAUN, ESQ., and  
15 CHRISTOPHER W. COON, ESQ., Attorneys at Law,  
16 117 East Center Street, Rochester, Minnesota  
17 55904, appeared for Diocese of Winona.

18 MARK W. GEHAN, ESQ., Attorney at Law,  
19 W-1100 First National Bank Building, 332  
20 Minnesota Street, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101,  
21 appeared for Thomas Adamson.

22 ALSO PRESENT:  
23 Gary Leann, videographer  
24 \* \* \*  
25 I N D E X

4

1 DEPOSITION EXHIBIT 29.....211  
2 DEPOSITION EXHIBIT A.....214  
3 P R O C E E D I N G S  
4 \* \* \*  
5 MR. LEANN: Today's date is May 16,  
6 2014. The time is approximately 10:14 a.m.  
7 This is the video deposition of Mr. Thomas  
8 Adamson. Will counsel please identify  
9 themselves for the video record?

10 MR. ANDERSON: For the plaintiff,  
11 Jeff Anderson.

12 MR. FINNEGAN: For the plaintiff,  
13 Mike Finnegan.

14 MR. GEHAN: For the witness, Mark  
15 Gehan, G-e-h-a-n.

16 MR. BRAUN: Tom Braun for the  
17 Diocese of Winona.

18 MR. COON: Christopher Coon, also  
19 for the Diocese of Winona.

20 MR. WIESER: Tom Wieser on behalf of  
21 the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis.

22 MS. SCHUCHARD: Inga Schuchard on  
23 behalf of Archdiocese of St. Paul and  
24 Minneapolis.

25 MR. LEANN: Will the court reporter

<p style="text-align: center;">5</p> <p>1 please swear in the witness?</p> <p>2 THOMAS ADAMSON,</p> <p>3 called as a witness, being first duly sworn,</p> <p>4 was examined and testified as follows:</p> <p>5 MR. LEANN: You may proceed.</p> <p>6 EXAMINATION</p> <p>7 BY MR. ANDERSON:</p> <p>8 Q. Would you please state your full name for the</p> <p>9 record?</p> <p>10 A. <b>Thomas Paul Adamson.</b></p> <p>11 Q. Mr. Adamson, I know you've been through this</p> <p>12 process before. Today you're being</p> <p>13 transcribed by written transcription and</p> <p>14 videotaped as well. You're aware of that?</p> <p>15 A. <b>Yes.</b></p> <p>16 Q. You're also aware that the answers you give to</p> <p>17 the questions posed are under oath?</p> <p>18 A. <b>Yes.</b></p> <p>19 Q. Okay. What is your current health?</p> <p>20 A. <b>Pardon me?</b></p> <p>21 Q. What is your current health?</p> <p>22 THE WITNESS: What do you want me to</p> <p>23 say about that?</p> <p>24 MR. GEHAN: You tell him how healthy</p> <p>25 you are or not. Answer the question.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">7</p> <p>1 because he can't record a nod of the head or a</p> <p>2 gesture of the hand. Okay?</p> <p>3 A. <b>(No response).</b></p> <p>4 Q. Is that okay?</p> <p>5 A. <b>Yes.</b></p> <p>6 Q. Okay. Are you currently receiving funds from</p> <p>7 the Diocese of Winona or the Archdiocese of</p> <p>8 St. Paul and Minneapolis?</p> <p>9 A. <b>I get my pension fund -- fund from the Diocese</b></p> <p>10 <b>of Winona.</b></p> <p>11 Q. How much is that fund?</p> <p>12 A. <b>\$1650 a month.</b></p> <p>13 Q. And do you receive any other funds from the</p> <p>14 diocese beyond the pension of 1650?</p> <p>15 A. <b>No.</b></p> <p>16 Q. Do you receive any -- do you have health</p> <p>17 insurance supplied by them to you?</p> <p>18 A. <b>I'm on Medicare as my primary insurer.</b></p> <p>19 Q. And then --</p> <p>20 A. <b>Blue Cross Blue Care -- Blue Cross/Blue Shield</b></p> <p>21 <b>is the secondary provider.</b></p> <p>22 Q. And who pays the premium for that?</p> <p>23 A. <b>The diocese.</b></p> <p>24 Q. Diocese of Winona?</p> <p>25 A. <b>Yes.</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">6</p> <p>1 A. <b>Well, my health is precarious. I -- I -- I</b></p> <p>2 <b>had a cataract surgery last month and I'm in</b></p> <p>3 <b>line for open heart surgery in two weeks.</b></p> <p>4 Q. Okay.</p> <p>5 A. <b>And -- and that's in preparation -- besides</b></p> <p>6 <b>the heart surgery, I'm in line for a hip</b></p> <p>7 <b>replacement and so that's all kinda piled up</b></p> <p>8 <b>rather dramatically.</b></p> <p>9 Q. All right. If at any time today you want to</p> <p>10 take a break or you're not feeling well, just</p> <p>11 let us know, we'll be happy to take a break</p> <p>12 and make sure we don't do anything to</p> <p>13 aggravate your health or impede it in any way.</p> <p>14 Okay?</p> <p>15 A. <b>Okay.</b></p> <p>16 Q. If you do decide to take a break, the only</p> <p>17 request I would make of you is that you answer</p> <p>18 the question put to you and then take whatever</p> <p>19 break you need and whatever time you need</p> <p>20 today for reasons of your health. Okay?</p> <p>21 A. <b>(No response).</b></p> <p>22 Q. Is that all right?</p> <p>23 A. <b>Yes.</b></p> <p>24 Q. Okay. I will need you to answer questions</p> <p>25 audibly so he can record what is ever said</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">8</p> <p>1 Q. Do they provide any other benefits to you</p> <p>2 beyond your pension and the supplemental</p> <p>3 insurance payment?</p> <p>4 A. <b>No.</b></p> <p>5 Q. The records reflect that you were voluntarily</p> <p>6 removed from the clerical state, that means</p> <p>7 removed officially as a priest. Is that</p> <p>8 correct?</p> <p>9 A. <b>Yes.</b></p> <p>10 Q. Was that something that you sought to have</p> <p>11 done or was that something that the bishop or</p> <p>12 somebody else requested that you do?</p> <p>13 A. <b>The Bishop Harrington initiated that.</b></p> <p>14 Q. Tell me how that came about.</p> <p>15 A. <b>Well, he had been the bishop for a few years</b></p> <p>16 <b>and I had -- I was continuing to function --</b></p> <p>17 <b>for a long time I had been suspended from any</b></p> <p>18 <b>active ministry to do anything as a -- in the</b></p> <p>19 <b>role as a priest and I continued to -- to be a</b></p> <p>20 <b>priest. And then he didn't have much to say</b></p> <p>21 <b>to me at the time, but at one point he said,</b></p> <p>22 <b>"It's time for you to seek laicization," and</b></p> <p>23 <b>he gave me the alternatives for that.</b></p> <p>24 Q. When did he tell you that it was time to seek</p> <p>25 laicization?</p>

- 1 **A. I think three years ago, approximately. I --**  
 2 **I don't know.**  
 3 **Q.** Where were you living at the time?  
 4 **A. I was living in Eau Claire, Wisconsin.**  
 5 **Q.** And did he tell you why he thought it was  
 6 time --  
 7 **A. No.**  
 8 **Q.** -- for you to seek it?  
 9 **A. No. He did not.**  
 10 **Q.** Had anything happened that you believe  
 11 precipitated such a request after all these  
 12 years?  
 13 **A. No. I would say no to that.**  
 14 **Q.** Was that before I visited you in -- with Mike  
 15 Finnegan in Eau Claire or after I visited you  
 16 in Eau Claire?  
 17 **A. You visited me in '09, I think. It would have**  
 18 **been after that.**  
 19 **Q.** How long would you say after that? Was it a  
 20 month, a week?  
 21 **A. Oh, I think years.**  
 22 **Q.** Okay.  
 23 **A. I'm just taking those dates and times off the**  
 24 **top of my head. I --**  
 25 **Q.** Sure.

- 1 **A. I could be corrected on either one.**  
 2 **Q.** Okay. When he told you that it was time to  
 3 seek laicization, what happened? Tell us  
 4 about the process that was initiated at that  
 5 time.  
 6 **A. He told me I could do it voluntarily or I**  
 7 **could go through a canonical trial and that**  
 8 **was the option. And I -- I -- I -- he gave me**  
 9 **very short notice to make a decision and I --**  
 10 **and they had a form letter for doing that and**  
 11 **within a few days I signed the letter.**  
 12 **Q.** Okay. And was the letter one that indicated  
 13 you would do it voluntarily as opposed to --  
 14 **A. Yes, and that it would not be publicly**  
 15 **announced. I don't know if that --**  
 16 **MR. GEHAN:** Mr. Adamson, you've got  
 17 to let him finish his question before you  
 18 answer.  
 19 **A. Oh, I'm sorry.**  
 20 **BY MR. ANDERSON:**  
 21 **Q.** That's okay. So I think the question was that  
 22 you did sign the form, agreeing to voluntarily  
 23 permit your laicization, correct?  
 24 **A. Yes.**  
 25 **Q.** And there was also something in that form or

- 1 that agreement that provided it would not be  
 2 public, correct?  
 3 **A. Yes.**  
 4 **Q.** Was that on the initiation and suggestion of  
 5 Bishop Harrington?  
 6 **A. Yes.**  
 7 **Q.** Did he tell you why that would not be public  
 8 and the reason they wanted it not to be  
 9 public?  
 10 **A. I don't know if I had input into that, but I**  
 11 **-- I agreed with it.**  
 12 **Q.** Beyond signing a form, was there any incentive  
 13 to you, such as a lump-sum payment, to agree  
 14 to do it voluntarily versus going through the  
 15 process of involuntary laicization?  
 16 **A. No.**  
 17 **Q.** Was there any offer or discussion of such a  
 18 payment or an incentive to do it?  
 19 **A. No.**  
 20 **Q.** Why did you agree to do it?  
 21 **A. Well, the options were to -- to do it**  
 22 **voluntarily or to go through a court process.**  
 23 **Q.** Okay.  
 24 **A. Which would be -- amount to a -- maybe a --**  
 25 **the -- the term escapes me -- to be publicly**

- 1 **-- some of you must have the word. Laicized.**  
 2 **The word for that escapes me, but I -- I could**  
 3 **have a trial and select canon lawyers and**  
 4 **people to argue my side and then they would**  
 5 **make a decision.**  
 6 **Q.** And what was it about that that caused you to  
 7 believe that you didn't want to do that or  
 8 that the bishop was urging you to do that that  
 9 way?  
 10 **A. It was an either/or thing and to -- to do it,**  
 11 **to me to volunteer to do it seemed to be the**  
 12 **better thing. I was in my 70s age-wise, and**  
 13 **-- and I had been, what, under censure --**  
 14 **under suspension, that's a better word, for**  
 15 **quite some time and I -- and I knew I would**  
 16 **never function publicly as a priest again.**  
 17 **Q.** You had been a priest before laicized. Had  
 18 you functioned privately as a priest?  
 19 **A. Yes, I -- at -- when Bishop Rossi was there,**  
 20 **he asked me not to dress as a cleric or to do**  
 21 **things publicly. That came with the**  
 22 **suspension from priestly faculties, not to**  
 23 **dress as a priest or to act as a priest, and I**  
 24 **never have since.**  
 25 **Q.** What year was that?

- 1 **A. I think it was 1988, but that's off the top of**  
 2 **my head, too.**  
 3 **Q.** Okay. And when he asked you not to publicly  
 4 function as a priest or dress as a priest, did  
 5 you abide by that instruction?  
 6 **A. Yes.**  
 7 **Q.** And up until that time, you had in some  
 8 capacity operated as a priest and if so, how?  
 9 **A. In -- only in a very private way did I**  
 10 **function as a priest. I mean, even today I do**  
 11 **the priest prayers and stuff, I've never**  
 12 **missed that in my 60 years, but -- and I was**  
 13 **saying Mass, but I -- I never functioned with**  
 14 **a family or friends or anyone in -- after**  
 15 **that, no.**  
 16 **Q.** Okay. Before 1988, you would say Mass where?  
 17 **A. In my home.**  
 18 **Q.** Would you ever do it in any of the churches as  
 19 a supply priest or to help out other priests  
 20 who needed your help?  
 21 **A. Never.**  
 22 **Q.** When was the last time you did any function as  
 23 a priest, then, where you ministered the  
 24 sacraments publicly, presided Mass or anything  
 25 like that as you recall?

- 1 **A. Well, I think my maternal grandmother was**  
 2 **buried in 1986, that's off the top of my head,**  
 3 **too, but I had her funeral, for one thing.**  
 4 **And I was a -- I was not functioning in any**  
 5 **parish at that time.**  
 6 **Q.** Okay. You were permitted to wear your  
 7 priestly garments at that time?  
 8 **A. Yes, that's -- that, yes, that fits.**  
 9 **Q.** Okay. Any other instances where you wore your  
 10 priestly garments or functioned in any public  
 11 manner beyond that which you described before  
 12 1988?  
 13 **A. Never publicly from the time that I was**  
 14 **suspended, no. I never functioned as a priest**  
 15 **at any time or any place in my years in Eau**  
 16 **Claire, for instance, never.**  
 17 **Q.** What do you believe the date of your  
 18 suspension to have been? What date were you  
 19 suspended?  
 20 **A. Oh, I would have to look that up. I'm -- I'm**  
 21 **just saying 19 -- what is this? I -- I don't**  
 22 **know. I -- I'm -- it's -- 2010, I don't know.**  
 23 **It's a few -- it's rather recent.**  
 24 **Q.** What bishop ordered your suspension?  
 25 **A. Bishop Harrington.**

- 1 **Q.** And what reason was given you by the bishop  
 2 for your suspension?  
 3 **A. He never gave a reason except to say to me,**  
 4 **"It's time."**  
 5 **Q.** Okay. Did you question or challenge that?  
 6 **A. Yes.**  
 7 **Q.** What did you say or how did you challenge  
 8 that?  
 9 **A. Well, he had worked with me for a few years,**  
 10 **came to visit me at my home, fixed meals for**  
 11 **him a few times and he was supportive of me**  
 12 **and -- and always seemed to be saying because**  
 13 **of my age -- and the word I was looking for**  
 14 **earlier was that I would not be defrocked was**  
 15 **the word I couldn't come up with. And it**  
 16 **always seemed to say because I was a senior,**  
 17 **so to speak, that I -- I could live out my**  
 18 **life as a priest.**  
 19 **Q.** So were you disappointed when he told you that  
 20 it was time and he wanted to defrock you, so  
 21 to speak?  
 22 **A. He did not defrock me.**  
 23 **Q.** Okay.  
 24 **A. That's a different --**  
 25 **Q.** Oh, okay.

- 1 **A. -- thing as far as I was concerned.**  
 2 **Q.** Yeah, this was the time where he talked about  
 3 suspension?  
 4 **A. No. This was a time where he was asking me to**  
 5 **either go to court or to seek voluntary**  
 6 **laicization --**  
 7 **Q.** Okay, laicization, okay.  
 8 **A. -- a few years ago.**  
 9 **Q.** When you use the term "defrock" and you use  
 10 the term "laicization," do you consider those  
 11 to be the same or different processes?  
 12 **A. I think they're different processes. One is**  
 13 **certainly voluntary and the other is a**  
 14 **decision of the church officials.**  
 15 **Q.** Okay. When Bishop Harrington had the  
 16 conversation with you and he said it's time  
 17 and you, I am sensing, disapproved of that and  
 18 had a conversation with him, did you tell him  
 19 you thought that wasn't fair or that wasn't  
 20 right or what did you say to him?  
 21 **A. I reacted negatively to it, certainly.**  
 22 **Q.** Why?  
 23 **A. Because I wanted to continue as a priest and**  
 24 **-- and -- and that wasn't satisfactory, I**  
 25 **didn't have any legal stuff going on or**

1 **problems and I had worked satisfactorily**  
 2 **supporting myself for years and --**  
 3 **Q.** What benefits had you been receiving before  
 4 you became laicized from the diocese and as a  
 5 priest?  
 6 **A. I was receiving my pension for several years.**  
 7 **Q.** And were you also receiving housing allowance?  
 8 **A. That's part of the pension plan, I think, it's**  
 9 **-- it's divided into two categories and I**  
 10 **think that's true for every priest.**  
 11 **Q.** How much was the housing allowance last time  
 12 you received it from the diocese?  
 13 **A. Well, that keeps going up, they've increased**  
 14 **that steadily like for several years, you**  
 15 **know, that -- that goes back -- I -- I was**  
 16 **part of the original group of priests of this**  
 17 **diocese that formulated a pension plan. And**  
 18 **at that time it seemed nonsense to me as a man**  
 19 **and 30 years old or whatever, you know, but I**  
 20 **-- I was one of those formation groups and --**  
 21 **so I don't know what it would have been back**  
 22 **then before the time I began to receive it,**  
 23 **but it was quite low and has increased**  
 24 **steadily.**  
 25 **Q.** And the last time you received it,

1 approximately how much was it?  
 2 **A. Just now?**  
 3 **Q.** The housing allowance.  
 4 **A. Oh, that's part of that \$1680 or whatever that**  
 5 **figure is.**  
 6 **Q.** So the 1650 or the 1680 you receive now as a  
 7 pension, you still get a housing allowance  
 8 included in that number, is that what you're  
 9 saying?  
 10 **A. That's part of it, and that is a tax issue**  
 11 **that -- that's taking care of our housing,**  
 12 **it's -- when I was still filing income tax,**  
 13 **that was always a separate item.**  
 14 **Q.** I see. So do you know of that 1650 (sic), for  
 15 example, what is allocated to housing and what  
 16 is not?  
 17 **A. I don't know that. I -- I would say it's**  
 18 **maybe half and half, just -- but that's a very**  
 19 **rough figure.**  
 20 **Q.** Do you receive income currently or have you in  
 21 the last few years from any other source you  
 22 haven't identified?  
 23 **A. No.**  
 24 **Q.** At the time that you signed the paper agreeing  
 25 to your voluntary laicization and the bishop

1 requested you to do so, you had incurred a  
 2 pretty serious debt to the diocese, had you  
 3 not?  
 4 **A. Yes.**  
 5 **Q.** And how much was that debt?  
 6 **A. I don't know what that total figure would be,**  
 7 **but it was -- the debt was mainly for legal**  
 8 **fees.**  
 9 **Q.** And do you recall if the debt was more than a  
 10 hundred thousand dollars or less?  
 11 **MR. BRAUN:** Counsel, when are you  
 12 referring to?  
 13 **MR. ANDERSON:** At the time at which  
 14 his laicization was sought.  
 15 **MR. BRAUN:** Thank you.  
 16 **A. I think it was less.**  
 17 **BY MR. ANDERSON:**  
 18 **Q.** Okay. And was the debt that you had incurred  
 19 for legal fees that had been paid by the  
 20 diocese forgiven or -- by the diocese in  
 21 exchange for your agreement not to fight your  
 22 removal from the priesthood?  
 23 **A. Those items I don't think were ever connected.**  
 24 **Q.** Okay. So have you ever had to pay any of that  
 25 debt back?

1 **A. Yes, I paid it back up to this month ever**  
 2 **since Mr. Restovich, George Restovich,**  
 3 **initiated the -- my share of that, that I**  
 4 **would pay \$100 a month from avertisio (ph) and**  
 5 **-- and that continues as of today, and I've**  
 6 **done that faithfully for 20 years, I'm saying,**  
 7 **roughly.**  
 8 **Q.** So that was something that George Restovich  
 9 had initiated?  
 10 **A. Yeah, I don't know how much Ted Collins was**  
 11 **involved in that. None of those monies for**  
 12 **Ted's fees ever went through me.**  
 13 **Q.** So they were always billed to the diocese and  
 14 then --  
 15 **A. I don't know that, Jeff.**  
 16 **Q.** Okay. But you never had to write the check  
 17 out --  
 18 **A. Never.**  
 19 **Q.** -- for your lawyers? Okay. And the lawyer  
 20 that's here today with you, representing you,  
 21 is under the same arrangement, being paid by  
 22 the diocese?  
 23 **A. No.**  
 24 **Q.** Being paid by you?  
 25 **A. We're just -- we're just newly acquainted, I**

1 **guess I would say.**  
 2 **Q.** Okay. Well, he's with the same firm as Ted  
 3 Collins --  
 4 **A. Yes.**  
 5 **Q.** -- did you know that?  
 6 **A. I knew that.**  
 7 **Q.** Do you feel like he's taking over for Ted --  
 8 MR. GEHAN: Okay. That's enough  
 9 now, Jeff. The arrangements that I have with  
 10 the witness are private and confidential.  
 11 MR. ANDERSON: You think so?  
 12 MR. GEHAN: Yes, and I'm going to  
 13 direct him not to answer any more questions on  
 14 that subject.  
 15 MR. ANDERSON: Okay. If that's your  
 16 instruction --  
 17 MR. GEHAN: Yes.  
 18 MR. ANDERSON: -- I'll not ask any  
 19 more questions concerning those arrangements.  
 20 MR. GEHAN: That's fine.  
 21 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 22 **Q.** The appearance that you make here today is  
 23 under subpoena, that means we served you with  
 24 papers requiring you to appear here today,  
 25 correct?

1 **A. Yes.**  
 2 **Q.** And as attached to that subpoena, we also  
 3 asked you to bring or required you to bring  
 4 certain other documents. Did you bring any  
 5 documents with you responsive to that  
 6 subpoena?  
 7 **A. Yes.**  
 8 **Q.** Okay.  
 9 MR. ANDERSON: And it appears you  
 10 have some documents, Mark?  
 11 MR. GEHAN: Yes, I do. We have, I  
 12 think, four responsive documents.  
 13 MR. ANDERSON: Okay.  
 14 MR. GEHAN: Which I will -- I think  
 15 I have five copies of each, I'm going to hold  
 16 one and you guys can figure out what to do  
 17 with the other four.  
 18 MR. ANDERSON: Okay.  
 19 MR. GEHAN: So -- and I will share  
 20 my copy with the witness.  
 21 MR. ANDERSON: Okay.  
 22 MR. GEHAN: Here's four.  
 23 MR. ANDERSON: All right. I think,  
 24 Mr. Gehan, you had presented responsive to the  
 25 question to us, I think, four documents here.

1 MR. GEHAN: I think it's four, yes.  
 2 MR. ANDERSON: Yes. And what I'll  
 3 do is mark these in chronological order and  
 4 the first presented is --  
 5 (Discussion out of the hearing of  
 6 the court reporter)  
 7 MR. ANDERSON: I'll start with the  
 8 first exhibit dated October 9th, 2008, and  
 9 I'll mark that Exhibit 100. And then that is  
 10 a letter from Harrington to Thomas Adamson.  
 11 The next exhibit --  
 12 MR. WIESER: Were you going to do  
 13 these in chronological order or not?  
 14 MR. ANDERSON: Well, I think that  
 15 is.  
 16 MR. WIESER: I don't think so.  
 17 MR. ANDERSON: Oh, wait a minute.  
 18 (Discussion out of the hearing of  
 19 the court reporter).  
 20 MR. ANDERSON: I am going to do it  
 21 in chronological order, so the first one will  
 22 be Exhibit 99 and that is from the desk of  
 23 Thomas Adamson dated October 26, 2003. That's  
 24 Exhibit 99. And then the letter from  
 25 Harrington to Adamson dated October 9th, 2008,

1 is 100.  
 2 MR. GEHAN: Yes, okay.  
 3 MR. ANDERSON: And then the  
 4 Congregation of the Doctrine of Faith document  
 5 will be marked Exhibit 101. And then the  
 6 document dated February 10th, 2012, will be  
 7 marked Exhibit 102. And I will mark the  
 8 subpoena that we served for purposes of this  
 9 deposition and the production of the documents  
 10 requested Exhibit 98. And do you have a copy  
 11 of that subpoena?  
 12 MR. GEHAN: (Indicating).  
 13 MR. ANDERSON: Okay. Your counsel  
 14 does.  
 15 MR. GEHAN: Right here (Handing  
 16 documents).  
 17 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 18 **Q.** So, Mr. Adamson, in the subpoena and the  
 19 attachment made to it requesting production of  
 20 documents, at page 3 there are some requests  
 21 made of you to produce some documents and so I  
 22 just want to walk you through some of those  
 23 requests to see if any of these things still  
 24 exist and/or are available.  
 25 MR. GEHAN: Counsel, this is a

25

1 request beginning at the bottom of page 2 of  
 2 the --  
 3 MR. ANDERSON: Yes.  
 4 MR. GEHAN: Okay. Thank you.  
 5 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 6 Q. And the top of page 3 --  
 7 MR. GEHAN: Yes.  
 8 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 9 Q. -- it itemizes a number of these requests.  
 10 And do you have page 3 before you there?  
 11 A. **I have the bottom of page 2.**  
 12 Q. You'll see the bottom of page 2 makes the  
 13 request that you produce and then at the top  
 14 of page 3 it asks you to produce item number  
 15 3, all pictures of you in clerical vestments  
 16 or performing any work as a priest. Do you  
 17 have any such pictures?  
 18 A. **I brought some with me, yes.**  
 19 Q. You brought some with you?  
 20 A. **Yes.**  
 21 Q. Do you have those with you right now?  
 22 A. **Yes.**  
 23 Q. Thank you. Did you produce those --  
 24 MR. GEHAN: Counsel, maybe we should  
 25 go off the record for just a minute.

26

1 MR. ANDERSON: Sure.  
 2 MR. LEANN: Off the video record  
 3 10:42 a.m.  
 4 (Recess taken)  
 5 MR. LEANN: Back on the video record  
 6 at 10:48 a.m.  
 7 MR. ANDERSON: Off the record Mr.  
 8 Adamson has identified for us a number of  
 9 things he's brought responsive to the  
 10 subpoena. In the interest of economy of time,  
 11 they are being copied as we speak and when we  
 12 do receive a copy of them, then we'll walk  
 13 through them and identify them and if  
 14 questions are necessary, we can do so. Mr.  
 15 Gehan has also indicated that he has an  
 16 exhibit that we can deal with at that time  
 17 also, so if that works --  
 18 MR. GEHAN: Any way you want to do  
 19 it.  
 20 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 21 Q. All right. Mr. Adamson, I'm going to refer  
 22 back for a moment, then, to some of the  
 23 documents that you did bring with you, and the  
 24 first one I have and want to reference is the  
 25 one I marked Exhibit 99. If you have that

27

1 before you there.  
 2 MR. GEHAN: I've got it here.  
 3 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 4 Q. And that would be from the desk of Thomas P.  
 5 Adamson.  
 6 A. **I think I have a copy.**  
 7 MR. GEHAN: Well, just work off this  
 8 one.  
 9 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 10 Q. You can use the one that we marked there, if  
 11 you like. Okay. You have the original before  
 12 you, correct?  
 13 A. **Yes.**  
 14 Q. And there's also a photocopy that we have  
 15 before us and this appears to be a three-page  
 16 document signed by you and addressed to Bishop  
 17 Harrington dated October 26, 2003, correct?  
 18 A. **Yes.**  
 19 Q. And what were the circumstances of you having  
 20 sent this and why?  
 21 A. **At that time my status as a -- as a priest and**  
 22 **how and to what extent I was to function was**  
 23 **questioned and he was wondering if I was**  
 24 **interested in -- in leaving priesthood on a**  
 25 **voluntary basis or whatever and if I wanted to**

28

1 **continue. And I said I would like to continue**  
 2 **and -- and he, as I recall, said, "Put down**  
 3 **something why you would like to continue being**  
 4 **a priest," so this was my ex -- my effort.**  
 5 Q. What event or person had questioned your  
 6 status as a priest in October of 2003 that  
 7 prompted you to write this?  
 8 A. **The bishop would have --**  
 9 Q. Okay.  
 10 A. **-- asked me those questions.**  
 11 Q. Okay. And after you sent this to the bishop,  
 12 detailing what you wanted to have happen  
 13 and/or why, what happened? What action was  
 14 taken and was any change in your status made  
 15 because of it?  
 16 A. **No change.**  
 17 Q. Okay. Was there any meeting or anything that  
 18 came about as a result of -- of the  
 19 questioning of your status and your having  
 20 prepared this exhibit, this letter to the  
 21 bishop?  
 22 A. **No.**  
 23 Q. Did you get a response from the bishop, I  
 24 guess, any written response from the bishop?  
 25 A. **I don't have a response.**

- 1 Q. Do you know what kind of response you got from  
2 him then? Did he call you, did he meet with  
3 you, did he have somebody meet with you? What  
4 happened?  
5 A. **Nothing, that I recall.**  
6 Q. Okay. And then what's the next thing that you  
7 do -- that did happen concerning your status  
8 after this letter was sent in 2003?  
9 A. **I continued working at the nursing home and  
10 other odd jobs and did some volunteer things  
11 and I continued to say private Masses.**  
12 Q. Okay. When you say "private Masses," what  
13 does that mean?  
14 A. **That means me and myself alone.**  
15 Q. And then what was the next thing that happened  
16 in time at 2000 -- after 2003 and this letter  
17 that caused your status to be discussed or  
18 changed with the existing bishop or diocese?  
19 A. **I don't know of anything.**  
20 Q. Okay. The next exhibit has been marked 100  
21 and if you could put that before you.  
22 (Discussion out of the hearing of  
23 the court reporter)  
24 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
25 Q. Do you see 100 there?

- 1 A. **Yes.**  
2 Q. Okay. 100 is dated October 9th, 2008, and  
3 it's a letter from Bishop Harrington to you,  
4 correct?  
5 A. **Yes.**  
6 Q. And it states, "Dear Tom, I want to thank you  
7 for your discernment following our recent  
8 meeting." So it appears you had had a meeting  
9 with him before this letter was sent, correct?  
10 A. **Yes.**  
11 Q. What caused that meeting to have been  
12 convened?  
13 A. **He called me in and -- and whatever, he wanted  
14 to see me and I went to the -- to his office.**  
15 Q. Between the letter we marked Exhibit 99 and  
16 this meeting where he called you in, had you  
17 had regular communications or any meetings or  
18 correspondence with the bishop in those six  
19 years preceding this letter?  
20 A. **Not that I have -- not that I have in my  
21 possession or not that I recall. We were in  
22 contact, I don't know, from -- I would go to  
23 some diocesan things, but I -- I don't have  
24 any specifics.**  
25 Q. Okay. Would those be priest meetings that

- 1 they'd have or celebrations down in the  
2 diocese for priests who would retire and  
3 things like that?  
4 A. **Yeah, possibly, yes.**  
5 Q. Do you keep a relationship and had you with a  
6 number of priests of the diocese?  
7 A. **Yes.**  
8 Q. Who do you keep the closest relationship to  
9 who are priests or former priests from the  
10 diocese?  
11 A. **Well, we buried Father Ernster last Monday and  
12 he was a confidant of mine, close friend,  
13 vacation friend. Other close friends would be  
14 Father Connolly and Father Egan, who are both  
15 in nursing homes. And those would be the --  
16 the -- the top of the group, I guess. I have  
17 contact with other priests, but --**  
18 Q. And the contacts you had with Bishop  
19 Harrington, then, would be primarily before at  
20 least the meeting in 2008 by telephone or when  
21 you'd be down there for some kind of  
22 celebration or ceremony, is that a fair  
23 characterization?  
24 A. **I think that's true. I don't remember many  
25 conversations, if any.**

- 1 Q. Okay. Do you remember the first time you met  
2 Bishop Harrington?  
3 A. **No.**  
4 Q. Do you know how many times you've had  
5 face-to-face encounters or meetings with him?  
6 A. **Well, no. I -- I know a few specifics when he  
7 would come to my home and I served him lunch  
8 at least twice and maybe a main meal once.**  
9 Q. Why would it be that he would visit you at  
10 your home and you'd cook for him?  
11 A. **Because he was visiting -- there was another  
12 priest in -- lived in Wisconsin that he would  
13 also visit and he would call and just kind of  
14 almost a -- a friendly visit to say -- to stop  
15 and see me.**  
16 Q. Okay. And at that time you were still a  
17 priest of the diocese and so he'd visit you  
18 and another priest that lived in your area,  
19 right?  
20 A. **Yes.**  
21 Q. Referring back to Exhibit 100, then, what  
22 caused the bishop to have met with you that is  
23 now being referred to in this letter of  
24 October 9th, 2008? What caused the meeting?  
25 A. **He called the meeting.**



- 1 Q. And did he call you by phone and say, "I wanna  
2 meet with you, Tom"?
- 3 A. **Probably.**
- 4 Q. Okay. And what was the purpose of the meeting  
5 as he represented it to you to be?
- 6 A. **To initiate this laicization.**
- 7 Q. Okay. And when he called to initiate, have a  
8 meeting to initiate laicization, did that come  
9 as a surprise to you?
- 10 A. **Yes.**
- 11 Q. Did you feel your status as a priest was  
12 secure, that you'd be able to continue as a  
13 priest till your demise?
- 14 A. **Yes.**
- 15 Q. Who had led you to believe that would be so?
- 16 A. **The bishop.**
- 17 Q. Okay. And did he, then, tell you why there  
18 was a change or a decision to make a change in  
19 your status?
- 20 A. **I tried to get that out of him. Only response**  
21 **I ever received was, "It's time."**
- 22 Q. And so you pressed him on that. What did he  
23 tell you? How did he respond to that?
- 24 A. **"It's time."**
- 25 Q. Okay. He gave you no context for why he

- 1 thought it was time?
- 2 A. **I don't have any idea what's going on in his**  
3 **life or what pressures he's having from a --**  
4 **bishops or what do you call it, the Dallas**  
5 **charter, those kinds of the things, I don't**  
6 **have any insight into that.**
- 7 Q. Okay. Did he give you any sign or signal or  
8 indication that there was some pressure from  
9 other priests of the diocese, outside  
10 pressure, media attention or potential legal  
11 exposure that caused this to be -- this  
12 decision to be made at this time?
- 13 A. **He didn't give any of that.**
- 14 Q. Okay. So how long was your meeting with him  
15 that predated this letter?
- 16 A. **Length-wise?**
- 17 Q. Yes.
- 18 A. **Maybe an hour.**
- 19 Q. And tell us what was discussed.
- 20 A. **Well, there were other -- he asked other**  
21 **people there to share in what was going on and**  
22 **-- and I don't know what their titles was.**  
23 **Father -- a -- a priest was there and he might**  
24 **have been vice chancellor, had some title, I**  
25 **can't tell you his name right now, and P.J.**

- 1 **Thompson was director of -- of abuse, I guess**  
2 **is the title, or there was a committee that**  
3 **dealt with sexual abuse and she was there for**  
4 **that meeting.**
- 5 Q. And was that meeting after or before I had  
6 visited with you at your place in Eau Claire?
- 7 A. **After, I think.**
- 8 Q. And these folks that accompanied the bishop  
9 and you said shared what was going on, did  
10 they discuss with you -- what did they share  
11 about what was going on?
- 12 A. **They shared it was wise for me and healthy,**  
13 **prudent to seek laicization.**
- 14 Q. Why did they -- what did they express about  
15 why that was healthy for you to do that?
- 16 A. **I'd be at peace.**
- 17 Q. Did you agree with that?
- 18 A. **I was at peace in some ways.**
- 19 Q. So you felt it wasn't necessary for you to be  
20 laicized to be at peace?
- 21 A. **That's right.**
- 22 Q. So did you challenge their assertion that it  
23 was for your benefit?
- 24 A. **Yes, I think as best I could.**
- 25 Q. Did you -- did they tell you or suggest to you

- 1 that while it was for your peace, when you  
2 said you didn't -- you were already at peace,  
3 that they thought there might be potential  
4 publicity and/or it may look bad if you were  
5 allowed to continue in the priesthood?
- 6 A. **That was not discussed, I don't think.**
- 7 Q. Was there an undertone of that as --
- 8 A. **I don't think so.**
- 9 Q. Okay. There had been some publicity that  
10 immediately followed my visit to your place  
11 and some media attention around that, correct?
- 12 A. **That would have been two years previous to**  
13 **this, would it not?**
- 14 Q. What do you recall?
- 15 A. **Well, that's what I recall.**
- 16 Q. Okay.
- 17 A. **I think that -- between you coming to see me**  
18 **and -- and the bishop talking to me was a**  
19 **two-year gap, although that's --**
- 20 Q. Okay. So there were at least two other  
21 clerics, officials of the diocese with Bishop  
22 Harrington at the meeting --
- 23 A. **Yes.**
- 24 Q. -- at your place?
- 25 A. **At his office.**

- 1 Q. At his office, okay.
- 2 A. **(Nods head).**
- 3 Q. And so they asked you to come to his office in
- 4 Winona?
- 5 A. **Yes.**
- 6 Q. And were any notes or recording made of that
- 7 meeting, as far as you know, by them or you?
- 8 A. **Nothing in front of me.**
- 9 Q. And what else was said at that meeting, either
- 10 by you or by any of them to you?
- 11 A. **The only thing I recall is that they were**
- 12 **supporting his notion that it was time for me**
- 13 **to seek laicization. They were kind of**
- 14 **support people for his arguments.**
- 15 Q. And you were pushing against that some, were
- 16 you not?
- 17 A. **Yes.**
- 18 Q. And the reasons you were giving -- the reasons
- 19 they were giving is, it's time, but nothing
- 20 more specific than that?
- 21 A. **Well, I made mistakes, but I liked priesthood.**
- 22 Q. Okay. Is that what you told them, you had
- 23 made mistakes, but you wanted to stay in the
- 24 priesthood because you liked it?
- 25 A. **Well, that -- that and my affection for the**

- 1 **priesthood was ongoing to now.**
- 2 Q. At that time and in that meeting with the
- 3 bishop and some of the other officials you've
- 4 identified, did Bishop Harrington ask you any
- 5 details about the names or numbers of kids who
- 6 you had abused while a priest?
- 7 A. **No.**
- 8 Q. Before that time, had any bishop of the
- 9 Diocese of Winona, Vlazny, Watters or
- 10 Fitzgerald or any other bishop of the Diocese
- 11 of Winona, ever asked you to identify for him
- 12 the names or numbers of kids who you had
- 13 abused while you were a priest?
- 14 A. **There would be meetings of specific cases, but**
- 15 **there were -- I was never asked to list names.**
- 16 Q. Had any official, apart from the meetings that
- 17 you described specific to certain instances,
- 18 any official of the Diocese of Winona or the
- 19 Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis ever
- 20 ask you specifically to identify for them the
- 21 names or identities of any of the kids that
- 22 you had abused while working as a priest in
- 23 the Diocese of Winona or the Archdiocese of
- 24 St. Paul and Minneapolis?
- 25 A. **Never beyond maybe a specific instance.**

- 1 Q. So if I'm hearing you correctly, if there was
- 2 an individual complaint by an individual name,
- 3 there may be a discussion of that only,
- 4 correct?
- 5 A. **Yes.**
- 6 Q. Was the meeting that you're referring to and
- 7 referenced in this letter in 2008, did it end
- 8 on a cordial or hostile note? How did it end?
- 9 MR. GEHAN: Counsel, what exhibit
- 10 are you talking about?
- 11 BY MR. ANDERSON:
- 12 Q. The meeting that preceded the Exhibit 100 in
- 13 2008, the meeting with Bishop Harrington.
- 14 A. **How did it end, is that the question?**
- 15 Q. Yeah, how did it come to an end?
- 16 A. **Well, it -- it wasn't hostile.**
- 17 Q. Okay.
- 18 A. **After the meeting was over, I visited with**
- 19 **P.J. Thompson for -- with just her for a bit.**
- 20 Q. And what was the conversation there?
- 21 A. **That was that she was supporting me and, you**
- 22 **know, saying, "Do the best you can," that's**
- 23 **all I recall.**
- 24 Q. Okay. And she -- was she considered the
- 25 victims' assistance minister or what was her

- 1 job, do you know?
- 2 A. **The victims' assistant?**
- 3 Q. Well, what was her job?
- 4 A. **Her job, she was -- she was chairman of the**
- 5 **sex abuse group for the Diocese of Winona.**
- 6 Q. Okay.
- 7 A. **She was -- I think she was entitled chancellor**
- 8 **at that time of the diocese.**
- 9 Q. All right. How did -- how was she supporting
- 10 you? What did she say that led you to
- 11 describe her as supporting you?
- 12 A. **Well, I had met with her and had contact with**
- 13 **her for -- over the years and that's the kind**
- 14 **of a person she was. She was considerate and**
- 15 **supportive.**
- 16 Q. At the meeting, did you agree to voluntarily
- 17 submit to laicization?
- 18 A. **No.**
- 19 Q. Okay. Looking at Exhibit 100, it -- he
- 20 writes, "I want to thank you for your
- 21 discernment following our recent meeting." As
- 22 you read discernment, what does discern --
- 23 what does discernment refer to here, do you
- 24 know?
- 25 A. **That means that I thought over what he had**

1 **suggested about seeking voluntary laicization.**  
 2 Q. Okay.  
 3 A. **And that I had agreed to it.**  
 4 Q. Okay. So sometime after the meeting, you  
 5 communicated to him that, "I will agree to  
 6 your request?"  
 7 A. **True, yes.**  
 8 Q. And you communicated that to him by telephone  
 9 or in person?  
 10 A. **Telephone.**  
 11 Q. And then you received this letter?  
 12 A. **Yes.**  
 13 Q. And did you get any -- what made you after  
 14 first resisting removal, discern or decide to  
 15 change your mind and not resist it and agree  
 16 to it? What motivated you?  
 17 A. **There was an option thing there, it was an**  
 18 **either/or.**  
 19 Q. Okay. And give me the either/or option you  
 20 were given?  
 21 A. **Either/or option was to go through a canonical**  
 22 **process or to do it voluntarily.**  
 23 Q. And the canonical process that they described  
 24 to you as the option if you fought it would be  
 25 quite public and painful for a lot of people,

1 is that -- was it described that way to you?  
 2 A. **I think, yes.**  
 3 Q. And then you ultimately made the decision to  
 4 agree to it because what reason?  
 5 A. **There was no other option.**  
 6 (Discussion out of the hearing of  
 7 the court reporter)  
 8 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 9 Q. If you look at the exhibit, Mr. Adamson, in  
 10 the second sentence it says, "Though I  
 11 recognized how difficult our conversation was  
 12 for you, please know that your apology for the  
 13 pain caused." First it refers to apology. Is  
 14 that an apology made from you to him as the  
 15 bishop?  
 16 A. **That was a -- an apology that I would have**  
 17 **made in front of that group, I think all of**  
 18 **them would have been present. I just said I'm**  
 19 **sorry for -- generically for whatever harm**  
 20 **I've done.**  
 21 Q. And what harm had you done that you were  
 22 apologizing for?  
 23 A. **Well, I was involved in lawsuits and hurt some**  
 24 **people in some parishes and the whole gamut**  
 25 **of --**

1 Q. Before that apology, had you apologized to  
 2 that bishop or any other for your having done  
 3 harm in parishes?  
 4 A. **I think that was ongoing.**  
 5 Q. It goes on to state, "and the written letter  
 6 of request for laicization have been  
 7 received." I don't see the written letter of  
 8 request for laicization. Do you --  
 9 A. **I looked for that and could not find it.**  
 10 Q. Okay. What did it say?  
 11 A. **It was a form thing that they handed to me and**  
 12 **I read it over and when I made -- decided that**  
 13 **was what I was gonna do, I signed it.**  
 14 Q. Okay.  
 15 A. **I had no input in the terminology of the**  
 16 **letter.**  
 17 Q. Okay. And I read this letter to mean that  
 18 you'd already signed that form, sent it back  
 19 to them and he's now expressing his  
 20 appreciation for you having done that,  
 21 correct?  
 22 A. **That all happened within a couple days.**  
 23 Q. Okay. In the second paragraph and the second  
 24 sentence he states, "I indicated that our  
 25 meeting was confidential." Did he tell you

1 why it was confidential and what that meant to  
 2 you?  
 3 A. **I don't know if that was part of the**  
 4 **bargaining process, but rather than, you know,**  
 5 **blowing it up or making more issues, it --**  
 6 **that they would adhere to the confidentiality**  
 7 **of it, those present.**  
 8 Q. The last sentence of the second paragraph  
 9 states, "Some of your close friends have  
 10 approached me in this regard, however, and it  
 11 is important that you understand I cannot be  
 12 responsible for what they tell others." What  
 13 is he referring to by close friends having  
 14 approached him and what was going on there?  
 15 A. **What went on there, I never told anybody that**  
 16 **I was seeking laicization nor that I had done**  
 17 **so, right up to the first person I ever told**  
 18 **that or admitted to was Mark.**  
 19 Q. Okay.  
 20 A. **And so I never gave that to priest friends or**  
 21 **anything. I did tell a couple friends that I**  
 22 **had been called in and the bishop was pushing**  
 23 **for that, but I never shared the results with**  
 24 **anyone. So this was a priest that -- that**  
 25 **was, what would you say, going to bat for me**

1 with the bishop? Which I had not asked him to  
 2 do and didn't want him to do and that's his --  
 3 and all that happened within those same couple  
 4 of days, I think.  
 5 Q. Who was that that was going to bat for you?  
 6 A. That was Father Eugene Egan, whose health is  
 7 bad.  
 8 Q. It also says here that you get -- health and  
 9 dental insurance remains in place and for the  
 10 remainder of your life, is that correct?  
 11 A. Yes.  
 12 Q. The next exhibit you brought with you here,  
 13 Mr. Adamson, is Exhibit 101. And you see a  
 14 copy of it before you. That is the  
 15 Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith,  
 16 appears at the title of it, and beneath that  
 17 is the dispensation from obligations and  
 18 sacred ordination, correct?  
 19 A. What's the number of that, please?  
 20 Q. That is Exhibit 101.  
 21 A. Yes.  
 22 MR. GEHAN: Could we just go off the  
 23 record?  
 24 MR. ANDERSON: Sure.  
 25 MR. LEANN: Off the video record at

1 1:16.  
 2 (Discussion off the record)  
 3 MR. LEANN: Back on the video  
 4 record, 11:16 a.m.  
 5 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 6 Q. Referring to the Exhibit 101, the  
 7 dispensation, this is something you did  
 8 receive from the prefect and the office of the  
 9 secretary for the prefect Levada?  
 10 A. I received that -- my copy of this from Bishop  
 11 Harrington.  
 12 Q. Okay. And was this the official record of  
 13 your dispensation from the clerical state?  
 14 A. Yes.  
 15 Q. And that was executed, you're aware, by the  
 16 then presiding Holy Father, Pope Benedict?  
 17 A. Yes.  
 18 Q. And it's your understanding that it's only the  
 19 Holy Father that has the legal and lawful  
 20 authority to remove you from the priesthood or  
 21 the clerical state?  
 22 A. I don't know that.  
 23 Q. In any case, in your case, it was Pope  
 24 Benedict that did so through the office of the  
 25 prefect, then Cardinal Levada, correct?

1 A. Well, the Pope is not going to read these  
 2 documents.  
 3 Q. What makes you think that?  
 4 A. There's -- there's a lotta documents and he,  
 5 like everyone, has an executor, confidant or  
 6 henchman or whatever to do their work.  
 7 Q. Do you know if Cardinal Levada, the prefect  
 8 that is on this document, or his predecessor,  
 9 then Cardinal Ratzinger, and as of 2009, Pope  
 10 Benedict, ever reviewed your file?  
 11 MR. BRAUN: Objection, foundation,  
 12 speculation. You can answer if you know.  
 13 THE WITNESS: Pardon me, Tom?  
 14 MR. BRAUN: You can answer if you  
 15 know the answer to that question.  
 16 A. I don't know the answer to that question.  
 17 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 18 Q. Do you know if anybody from the office of the  
 19 CDF, the Congregation for the Doctrine of  
 20 Faith and Cardinal Ratzinger's office that had  
 21 some jurisdiction over these files ever  
 22 interviewed you or did investigation or made  
 23 inquiry concerning you or the files presented  
 24 them?  
 25 A. No.

1 MR. BRAUN: Objection, foundation.  
 2 You can answer if you know.  
 3 A. No. I don't know that.  
 4 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 5 Q. Okay. Other than this document, Exhibit 101,  
 6 have you ever received any other documents  
 7 from the Holy Father or the CDF?  
 8 A. No.  
 9 Q. Did you review the actual petition presented  
 10 to the Holy Father and the CDF for your  
 11 laicization and the reasons given for it?  
 12 A. I would have read it several times.  
 13 Q. Okay. What was the reason they gave for your  
 14 laicization as included in that petition when  
 15 you read it?  
 16 A. I don't have a copy of that, but I -- I think  
 17 it said sexual misconduct and that I would  
 18 have signed that and admitted that.  
 19 Q. And did it detail the extent of the sexual  
 20 misconduct, that is, how long it had continued  
 21 and when it had occurred?  
 22 A. No.  
 23 Q. It just said there was a history of sexual  
 24 misconduct while you were a priest?  
 25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Anything beyond that description?  
 2 A. **Not that I know of.**  
 3 Q. Who actually signed the petition for your  
 4 removal?  
 5 A. **I would have signed that form letter.**  
 6 Q. Okay. And then was it -- do you know if it  
 7 was Bishop Harrington that actually made the  
 8 petition or signed the document beyond  
 9 yourself?  
 10 A. **I think the petition was a form petition. I**  
 11 **don't think they drew that up for me.**  
 12 Q. Okay. And did you ever review the file  
 13 presented to them that formed the basis for  
 14 your removal?  
 15 A. **No.**  
 16 Q. Okay. Have you ever reviewed your own file,  
 17 that is, the file maintained by the Diocese of  
 18 Winona pertaining to your priesthood or the  
 19 file maintained by the Archdiocese of St. Paul  
 20 and Minneapolis pertaining to your time there?  
 21 A. **No.**  
 22 MR. LEANN: Off the video record  
 23 11:21 a.m. to change media.  
 24 (Recess taken)  
 25 MR. LEANN: Back on the video record

1 11:29 a.m.  
 2 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 3 Q. All right. Mr. Adamson, I'd like to direct  
 4 you back to one of the exhibits you brought  
 5 with you and we marked today, and I'm now  
 6 referring to the letter from the vicar general  
 7 Reverend Richard Colletti to you hand  
 8 delivered dated February 10th, 2012. Do you  
 9 have that before you, sir?  
 10 A. **Yes.**  
 11 Q. Okay. It says, "Dear Mr. Adamson: After I  
 12 learned that you recently moved to Rochester,  
 13 Minnesota, to live, I contacted you to meet  
 14 with me and counsel for the Diocese of Winona  
 15 today, February 10th, to communicate to you  
 16 our concerns and expectations." What concerns  
 17 and expectations were communicated to you at  
 18 that meeting?  
 19 A. **Well, I think the next paragraph tells that.**  
 20 Q. What do you recall them saying to you at that  
 21 meeting?  
 22 A. **Well, that they were concerned that I was**  
 23 **moving back to the diocese and that I -- I**  
 24 **would be a possible negative publicity or that**  
 25 **I might re-offend and they wanted to alert the**

1 **pastors that I was around.**  
 2 Q. And besides -- I trust the vicar general was  
 3 in that meeting. Who else was?  
 4 A. **Anna Restovich was there.**  
 5 Q. And do you know if -- anything else said by  
 6 them to you about those topics, about  
 7 publicity or possibilities of re-offending?  
 8 A. **I think that would have been said generically.**  
 9 **I don't recall specifics.**  
 10 Q. And do you know if any of the pastors or any  
 11 of the people in or around Rochester in the  
 12 Diocese of Winona were notified of your  
 13 presence and residence in Rochester about  
 14 which they expressed concern?  
 15 A. **Prior to this?**  
 16 Q. After this.  
 17 A. **After this, they got copies of this letter and**  
 18 **I don't know what else.**  
 19 Q. Okay. Do you know who received or who the  
 20 diocese sent copies of this letter to?  
 21 A. **I would think Father Colletti, but I don't**  
 22 **know.**  
 23 Q. What about other pastors in the parishes down  
 24 in, you know, Winona where you had been for  
 25 many years beginning in, I think, '58 and all

1 around the diocese, do you know if all the  
 2 priests received any notification of you  
 3 having been in Rochester and living there?  
 4 A. **I don't think so, no.**  
 5 Q. Do you know if any parishioners were notified  
 6 of your presence and residence in Rochester?  
 7 A. **No.**  
 8 Q. Okay. Your answer is they were not notified,  
 9 correct?  
 10 A. **Yes.**  
 11 Q. The second paragraph of the letter states, "As  
 12 you know, the Diocese of Winona has received  
 13 numerous allegations over the past several  
 14 decades that you've committed acts of sexual  
 15 abuse against minors." Did they identify how  
 16 many allegations of sexual abuse over the past  
 17 decades had been reported to them?  
 18 A. **No.**  
 19 Q. How many had, do you know?  
 20 A. **No.**  
 21 Q. They go on to state, "And without" -- let's  
 22 see, they go on to state, "Many of those  
 23 allegations are credible." Did they identify  
 24 for you how many of those allegations that had  
 25 been made had been deemed by them to be

1 credible and now being described to you as  
2 credible?  
3 **A. No.**  
4 **Q.** How many kids, minors, do you estimate you  
5 engaged in sexual contact with while you were  
6 a priest?  
7 **A. That would be just a guess, several.**  
8 **Q.** Over 100?  
9 **A. No.**  
10 **Q.** Over 50?  
11 **A. No.**  
12 **Q.** You're not certain of the number, are you?  
13 **A. No, I'm not.**  
14 **Q.** It goes on to state, "You are also aware that  
15 the Diocese of Winona has been sued many times  
16 by multiple plaintiffs alleging sexual abuse  
17 by you and that we continue to defend claims  
18 today involving the sexual abuse of minors by  
19 you." Has the diocese, the bishop or its  
20 representatives, Vicar General Colletti or any  
21 others said how much the diocese has incurred  
22 in expenses, legal fees, defending cases  
23 brought concerning your conduct?  
24 **A. No.**  
25 **Q.** Has the diocese ever told them what those

1 allegations, those lawsuits and that conduct  
2 that you engaged in as a priest has ever cost  
3 the diocese?  
4 **A. No.**  
5 **Q.** They go on to state, "Given your history, we  
6 at the diocese view you as a potential threat  
7 to the safety of children in our schools and  
8 in our parishes." Is this the first time it  
9 had been written to you or said to you that  
10 the Diocese of Winona viewed you as a  
11 potential threat to the safety of children in  
12 their schools and in the parishes?  
13 **A. I never heard that expression before.**  
14 **Q.** Anything like it said to you by any of the  
15 officials before 2012, the date of this  
16 letter?  
17 **A. Well, they were -- obviously, they were**  
18 **involved in some claims and cases, they knew**  
19 **that and I knew that.**  
20 **Q.** But had it ever been said to you in either  
21 this fashion or anything like it as being  
22 written here?  
23 **A. No.**  
24 **Q.** The next paragraph says, "As a result, I have  
25 shared with you, and am writing in this letter

1 to confirm, that from this day forward, you  
2 will not be welcome or permitted to enter onto  
3 the premises of any of the parishes or schools  
4 within the Diocese of Winona." It goes on to  
5 state some limitations. Is this the first  
6 time such limitations as restrictive as this  
7 -- as are said here have been imposed on you?  
8 **A. Yes.**  
9 **Q.** Mr. Adamson, I'd like to just go back in time,  
10 then, and --  
11 (Discussion out of the hearing of  
12 the court reporter)  
13 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
14 **Q.** And the date of your ordination and many of  
15 these things we've been through before, so I'm  
16 going to try to cover areas that haven't been  
17 thoroughly covered before, but I think it's of  
18 record that you became ordained a priest in  
19 May of 1958 and your first assignment was as  
20 instructor at Cotter High School?  
21 **A. Yes.**  
22 **Q.** And you also became an assistant pastor at St.  
23 Casimir in Winona at that time?  
24 **A. Yes.**  
25 **Q.** And before that when you were in seminary and

1 in preparation for ordination, were you  
2 struggling with your sexuality and your sexual  
3 urges?  
4 **A. No -- well, I was a human and I think sex is**  
5 **part of that, but it was not a struggle.**  
6 **Q.** Did the rector or anybody at the seminary ever  
7 raise concerns about your ability, at least to  
8 you and/or to others, about your ability to  
9 control your urges?  
10 **A. No.**  
11 **Q.** Were you concerned in seminary that you would  
12 be able to?  
13 **A. I -- I didn't think I would have sexual**  
14 **problems after ordination.**  
15 **Q.** Did you have sexual problems before ordination  
16 and before seminary?  
17 **A. Just the growing up thing that a young man --**  
18 **I was a -- a sexual being.**  
19 **Q.** Where did you go to seminary?  
20 **A. Well, I went to Winona seminary for my**  
21 **Baccalaureate, for my B.S., then I went to**  
22 **Catholic University in Washington for my**  
23 **theology for four years.**  
24 **Q.** Were you ever disciplined at either of those  
25 places for any kind of conduct or misconduct?

1 **A. No.**  
 2 **Q.** Before you became ordained, you were required  
 3 to work, then, as a deacon for a period of  
 4 time, were you not?  
 5 **A. I'm not quite sure what you're asking, but --**  
 6 **but you -- I was ordained a deacon a year**  
 7 **before ordination, but other than just**  
 8 **weekends, I did not function at any specific**  
 9 **place as a deacon, no.**  
 10 **Q.** Okay. And that was my question. A year  
 11 before your ordination as a priest, you had to  
 12 be a deacon; where did you work as a deacon?  
 13 **A. Only in Washington, D.C.**  
 14 **Q.** While you were at Catholic University?  
 15 **A. Yes.**  
 16 **Q.** Did you have any difficulties during that  
 17 period of time?  
 18 **A. No.**  
 19 **Q.** And at the time of your ordination, then, the  
 20 bishop that presided in the Diocese of Winona  
 21 was?  
 22 **A. Bishop Fitzgerald.**  
 23 **Q.** And is it fair to say that he was, then, your  
 24 bishop, your presiding bishop for how many  
 25 years, would you estimate?

1 **A. Ten -- let me see.**  
 2 **Q.** Well, your best estimate will be --  
 3 **A. Ten years.**  
 4 **Q.** Okay. Before your ordination as a deacon or a  
 5 priest, did you sexually touch anyone under  
 6 the age of 18 years old?  
 7 **A. No.**  
 8 **Q.** Did you have a good relationship with Bishop  
 9 Fitzgerald and feel close to him?  
 10 **A. Yes.**  
 11 **Q.** Did you feel like the bishop was kind of a  
 12 part of your family?  
 13 **A. Vaguely, yes.**  
 14 **Q.** And in some ways, you knew he was your  
 15 superior, but also would be like a father  
 16 figure to you?  
 17 **A. I liked Bishop Fitzgerald.**  
 18 **Q.** He liked you, too, didn't he?  
 19 **A. Yes.**  
 20 **Q.** Tell us how you became close.  
 21 **A. Well, I don't know if close. He was the boss,**  
 22 **I respected him, he -- he respected me as a**  
 23 **priest, a worker, teacher, I think.**  
 24 **Q.** And while he was your boss clearly, did you  
 25 also socialize with him? I mean, you were an

1 athlete; did you golf with him, did you go on  
 2 social occasions with him?  
 3 **A. He was not a golfer. No. But we would have**  
 4 **social meetings, I mean, in those days**  
 5 **particularly in the diocese, the priests were**  
 6 **always quite close and -- and -- and we had**  
 7 **lots of gatherings and there were many of us.**  
 8 **Q.** And the Diocese of Winona at that time, back  
 9 in the time of your early years as a priest  
 10 following your ordination in the early '60s,  
 11 how many priests were there, approximately,  
 12 that would be a part of this group?  
 13 **A. Hundred and sixty.**  
 14 **Q.** And get together quite often?  
 15 **A. Yes.**  
 16 **Q.** And pretty much knew most of the priests --  
 17 **A. Yes.**  
 18 **Q.** -- if not all of them? And when one priest  
 19 would have a problem, it would often be the  
 20 case that that problem, whether it's alcohol  
 21 or personal, would often be shared and kind of  
 22 known among the colleagues in the diocese --  
 23 **MR. BRAUN: Objection as to**  
 24 **foundation.**  
 25 **BY MR. ANDERSON:**

1 **Q.** -- is that correct?  
 2 **MR. BRAUN: You can answer if you**  
 3 **can.**  
 4 **A. Yes.**  
 5 **BY MR. ANDERSON:**  
 6 **Q.** And was it also true that back in those days,  
 7 you kind of could trust and rely upon the  
 8 fellow priests to help one another when they  
 9 were having problems and kind of keep it among  
 10 themselves so they could deal with it  
 11 internally?  
 12 **MR. BRAUN: Objection as to the**  
 13 **form, foundation.**  
 14 **BY MR. ANDERSON:**  
 15 **Q.** Is that a fair characterization?  
 16 **A. Yes.**  
 17 **Q.** In the time that you were at Cotter High and  
 18 then at St. Casimir in Winona, who were you  
 19 closest to in the cleric -- among the priests  
 20 of the diocese at that time?  
 21 **A. Five of us who were ordained in 1958 were all**  
 22 **assigned to Winona and -- and we'd been close**  
 23 **for several years.**  
 24 **Q.** Who was that then?  
 25 **A. It was Wera, Connolly, Cook, Haggerty, three**

1 of those are dead -- four of 'em are dead, I  
 2 guess.  
 3 Q. Okay.  
 4 MR. WIESER: Who was the first one?  
 5 THE WITNESS: Wera, did I say?  
 6 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 7 Q. Yeah.  
 8 A. **He's deceased.**  
 9 Q. You know how to spell that one?  
 10 A. **We were high school classmates, W-e-r-a.**  
 11 Q. Okay. And I didn't ask you this, but how old  
 12 are you now?  
 13 A. **I'm 80.**  
 14 Q. So while at St. Casimir and Cotter High, you  
 15 worked as a teacher there, right?  
 16 A. **Yes.**  
 17 Q. And then you'd do Masses at St. Casimir?  
 18 A. **Yes.**  
 19 Q. And did you begin to develop close bonds with  
 20 some of the kids in the school and the parish  
 21 and recreate with them at that time?  
 22 A. **There wasn't much recreation. I had a lotta**  
 23 **priest friends and we would -- we had our own**  
 24 **men's basketball team, we would scrimmage the**  
 25 **-- the varsity or the B-squad, have school**

1 **games and -- but, no. I didn't associate with**  
 2 **them or socialize with the kids.**  
 3 Q. Did you, at some point in time, did you find  
 4 yourself being drawn to the kids and spending  
 5 more time with them?  
 6 A. **I'd say no.**  
 7 Q. Was there some point in time in which when you  
 8 were at St. Adrian's and became assigned to  
 9 that location that you became more interested  
 10 in or engaged with the kids?  
 11 A. **Yes.**  
 12 Q. How did that come about?  
 13 A. **Well, I was -- I was coaching and that led to**  
 14 **contacts.**  
 15 Q. So that created a lot of opportunity for  
 16 relationships with those kids?  
 17 A. **Yes.**  
 18 Q. What were you coaching at St. Adrian?  
 19 A. **Basketball, basically.**  
 20 Q. You were also, yourself personally, kind of an  
 21 athlete and you engaged with kids in other  
 22 sports besides basketball. What other sports?  
 23 Golf?  
 24 A. **Well, I was sort of a golfer, but I had**  
 25 **friends I golfed with, but I -- I didn't golf**

1 **with kids hardly ever. I mean, I did, I**  
 2 **guess, sometimes, but --**  
 3 Q. Yeah. So at Adrian, most of the contact you  
 4 had with the kids was through the parish as a  
 5 priest, which would require contact with kids,  
 6 and then coaching basketball, is that correct?  
 7 A. **I coached junior high basketball and I coached**  
 8 **the B squad basketball.**  
 9 Q. So the junior high were the 12-year-old -- 12-  
 10 and 13-year-olds?  
 11 A. **Older than that, they would have been**  
 12 **eighth-graders.**  
 13 Q. Okay. That would be 13, 14, 15?  
 14 A. **Fourteen, yeah, right.**  
 15 Q. And then the B squad would be --  
 16 A. **Sophomores, maybe some freshmen, 15, 16.**  
 17 Q. And you were assigned by Bishop Fitzgerald to  
 18 that location. Why, if you know, did Bishop  
 19 Fitzgerald move you from St. Casimir's and  
 20 Cotter to the Adrian assignment?  
 21 A. **I think that would be a very common thing,**  
 22 **after three, four years, a priest would take**  
 23 **another assignment just for development and**  
 24 **change and --**  
 25 Q. So as you saw it and interpreted it at that

1 time, it was kind of an ordinary thing to have  
 2 done, to make an assignment after about three  
 3 years?  
 4 A. **Yes.**  
 5 Q. Got it. Did you have any trouble acting out  
 6 towards any youth at your first assignment at  
 7 St. Casimir and Cotter High?  
 8 A. **No.**  
 9 Q. You're pretty sure of that?  
 10 A. **Yes.**  
 11 Q. Why are you sure of that?  
 12 A. **I just don't have any sexual -- no contacts**  
 13 **with kids there.**  
 14 Q. Okay. Were you sexually active?  
 15 A. **No.**  
 16 Q. Any discipline ever imposed on you or any  
 17 investigation ever done of you by anyone  
 18 during that first assignment --  
 19 A. **No.**  
 20 Q. -- that you know of?  
 21 A. **(Shakes head).**  
 22 Q. Anybody ever raise questions about your  
 23 relationship to any kids at that first  
 24 assignment --  
 25 A. **No.**



- 1 Q. -- that you recall? Then at St. Adrian, it's  
2 there you became close to and had more contact  
3 with some kids by reason of both your  
4 assignment and your coaching. How did you  
5 come to become close to and ?  
6 A. **I think he was very interested in me,**  
7 **interested in sex and that's -- just**  
8 **developed.**  
9 Q. And how old was he when he first expressed the  
10 interest in sex to you and the relationship  
11 developed?  
12 A. **I think he was 14.**  
13 Q. And how old was he the first time any sexual  
14 contact between you and he occurred?  
15 A. **Fourteen.**  
16 Q. What year would that -- would you estimate  
17 that to have been then?  
18 A. **Pardon me?**  
19 Q. What year was that?  
20 A. **It would have been 1961, I think.**  
21 Q. And the records show that you were assigned  
22 there June 16th, '61, so it would have been in  
23 the summer of that year?  
24 A. **In the winter of -- it would be '61/'62.**  
25 Q. And was that the first youth that you had

- 1 engaged in some contact with sexually?  
2 A. **Yes.**  
3 Q. And then he had some brothers that you came to  
4 know and become close to on some level also,  
5 correct?  
6 A. **That's correct.**  
7 Q. And did you engage in sexual contact --  
8 A. **They accused me of that, but I don't remember**  
9 **having contact with the brothers.**  
10 Q. So whether you did actually have sexual  
11 contact with them or not, you don't deny that,  
12 you're just not sure if you did?  
13 A. **I don't remember contact with them.**  
14 Q. Okay. And who were the brothers that you did  
15 end up spending time with in addition to --  
16 brothers to ?  
17 A. **Well, close to him in age was , who**  
18 **is deceased now, who was a tremendous athlete**  
19 **and played on the same group as for**  
20 **basketball.**  
21 Q. And then who else was there?  
22 A. **would have been younger, he would have**  
23 **been a -- a grade school kid during 1961. He**  
24 **would be, I don't know, six, eight years**  
25 **younger, I don't know.**

- 1 Q. And did you coach him?  
2 A. **No.**  
3 Q. Was he an athlete?  
4 A. **I think so. I was gone from there before he**  
5 **was still a primary student.**  
6 Q. Even after you were at St. Adrian, you  
7 continued to have some relationship with the  
8 family and sexual contact with , did  
9 you not?  
10 A. **Yes.**  
11 Q. So after having been assigned after about six  
12 or seven years to -- I think the records seem  
13 to indicate you were at St. Adrian's between  
14 June of '61 and August of '68, that makes it  
15 about seven years; sound about right?  
16 A. **No. I was at Adrian one year.**  
17 Q. One year, oh. Where did you go after your  
18 first year at Adrian then?  
19 A. **To Rochester.**  
20 Q. Oh. Okay. Oh, yeah, I had a mis -- I had a  
21 typo in my timeline here.  
22 So that was Rochester Lourdes?  
23 A. **Yes.**  
24 Q. You were made assistant principal?  
25 A. **Yes.**

- 1 Q. Okay. And you were affiliated with what  
2 parish then?  
3 A. **I lived at the high school.**  
4 Q. And where would you preside Mass then as a  
5 pastor or assistant?  
6 A. **Well, that -- that year I didn't have a -- a**  
7 **parish assignment.**  
8 Q. Okay.  
9 A. **I would say Mass for the students and --**  
10 Q. Okay. Why were you moved by the bishop from  
11 St. Adrian's to Rochester?  
12 A. **I was moved because the priest at Rochester,**  
13 **who was assistant principal, was being pursued**  
14 **by a woman and he had to move or that's how**  
15 **they did it in those days.**  
16 Q. And did it have anything to do with what you  
17 had done with or to or any --  
18 A. **No.**  
19 Q. -- other youth? And were you actually given a  
20 reason for the transfer out of there after one  
21 year, which was kind of out of the ordinary?  
22 A. **Well, I knew what was going on and -- and we**  
23 **just switched positions or assignments.**  
24 Q. And so the priest who was the subject of what  
25 you just described was switched with you and

1 he was put into St. Adrian's and you were made  
2 assistant principal at Lourdes, is that --  
3 **A. Yes.**  
4 **Q.** -- how it worked?  
5 **A. Yes.**  
6 **Q.** Was that kind of how it was done then, if  
7 there was a problem with one, you'd switch  
8 them out or what?  
9 MR. BRAUN: Objection, foundation,  
10 speculation.  
11 MR. GEHAN: You can answer.  
12 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
13 **Q.** Was that unusual?  
14 **A. I'd say that was unique, but I don't know.**  
15 **Q.** Okay. What discussions did you have with the  
16 bishop, either prior to the change in  
17 assignment after having been a year at St.  
18 Adrian's or shortly after as to the reasons  
19 for it?  
20 **A. No letters, no discussions. You got a letter**  
21 **in the mail, "I appoint you here or here."**  
22 **Q.** How did you know, then, that it was motivated  
23 by some problem with another priest?  
24 **A. Oh, well, we priests knew each other, he was a**  
25 **year older than me and somewhat of a friend.**

1 **Q.** And priests would have regular get-togethers  
2 and talk among one another and when there were  
3 issues that emerged, they'd often get  
4 discussed and known among your colleagues, is  
5 that a fair characterization?  
6 **A. Yes.**  
7 **Q.** When you engaged in the sexual contact with  
8 and he was 14 years old, did you share  
9 that with anybody, your colleagues or anybody  
10 else?  
11 **A. No one.**  
12 **Q.** When is the first time that you did share that  
13 with anybody, that you had engaged that kid at  
14 St. Adrian's in sex?  
15 **A. I don't know. Probably when the first lawsuit**  
16 **came up. I don't know when I would have**  
17 **shared that.**  
18 **Q.** You were, then, at -- assistant principal at  
19 St. (Sic) Lourdes living --  
20 (Discussion out of the hearing of  
21 the court reporter)  
22 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
23 **Q.** -- living at, I think you said, the high  
24 school. Why were you living at the high  
25 school as opposed to in a rectory in a parish

1 where you could do your ordinary pastor work?  
2 **A. The high school had its own rectory.**  
3 **Q.** Oh, okay. That makes sense. And so it was  
4 appended to what priest -- what parish?  
5 **A. There was no parish.**  
6 **Q.** Oh, the high school --  
7 **A. The high school had its own rectory.**  
8 **Q.** Oh, it did?  
9 **A. Lourdes High School.**  
10 **Q.** Okay. How many priests lived at that rectory?  
11 **A. Two of us.**  
12 **Q.** Who was that?  
13 **A. Father Don Leary.**  
14 **Q.** And who else? Anybody else?  
15 **A. Me.**  
16 **Q.** Anybody else come in and live temporarily?  
17 **A. No.**  
18 **Q.** Okay. Did you become close with Don Leary?  
19 **A. Yes, we -- there was a lot of -- I guess close**  
20 **is okay, yes.**  
21 **Q.** Okay. Were there any other pastors or  
22 assistants or associate pastors that lived  
23 with you in the rectory when you were assigned  
24 to St. Adrian?  
25 **A. There was a pastor.**

1 **Q.** Who was that?  
2 **A. Mike Glenn.**  
3 **Q.** Did he or any other -- any of your colleagues  
4 ever question you about your time at St.  
5 Adrian and your relationship to the  
6 family and especially  
7 **A. No.**  
8 **Q.** No questions ever raised about that?  
9 **A. No. Not at that time. Maybe --**  
10 **Q.** You developed a very close relationship to  
11 that whole family, didn't you, when you were  
12 at St. Adrian?  
13 **A. Well, especially with**  
14 **Q.** And that became kind of cultivated over the  
15 years and continued while you were at Lourdes  
16 and later on, did it not?  
17 **A. Yes.**  
18 **Q.** How long did your close relationship to  
19 continue?  
20 **A. Ten years.**  
21 **Q.** And did you try to keep secret the fact that  
22 you had a close relationship with him?  
23 **A. No. I don't think I -- he -- he would come to**  
24 **visit and then, you know, in those first years**  
25 **I would see him maybe twice a year, that was**

1 200 miles distance from here. And when he  
 2 became a college age, then, and he -- he  
 3 worked in Rochester in the summers and I would  
 4 see him more often.  
 5 Q. Would he stay overnight at your rectory when  
 6 you were at -- assigned to Lourdes?  
 7 A. No. I don't -- no.  
 8 Q. He would visit you there, would he not?  
 9 A. He would visit me there and his family would  
 10 visit me there a couple times.  
 11 Q. Would they ever spend the night there? Was  
 12 that a couple hours away from Adrian?  
 13 A. Adrian is 200 miles from here, roughly.  
 14 Q. Would they ever spend the night so they could  
 15 spend time with you?  
 16 A. No.  
 17 Q. Would you ever go back to their home and spend  
 18 time there at their home?  
 19 A. Well, eventually, when was in the major  
 20 seminary, I went there at least once. I only  
 21 stayed at their home, I think, one time, but  
 22 he would have been in his 20s at that time.  
 23 Q. In terms of the relationship you developed  
 24 with that whole family, do you think they  
 25 considered you to be kind of their special

1 priest?  
 2 MR. BRAUN: Objection, speculation,  
 3 form.  
 4 A. Yeah, I don't know that.  
 5 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 6 Q. Did you do Masses in their home and --  
 7 A. Never.  
 8 Q. -- perform sacraments on family members?  
 9 A. No. No.  
 10 Q. You heard confessions for  
 11 A. Probably.  
 12 Q. And for the other kids?  
 13 A. Probably.  
 14 Q. So while you're at Lourdes, then, are you  
 15 coaching also as assistant principal?  
 16 A. No.  
 17 Q. Why not? That's kind of an interest of yours.  
 18 A. Well, again, we would maybe scrimmage with the  
 19 team and they -- they had coaches plenty, you  
 20 know, they had C-squad, B-squad full-time  
 21 coaches. They didn't need me, for one thing,  
 22 and I had a lot of other titles besides  
 23 assistant principal.  
 24 Q. What others?  
 25 A. Well, I was head of counseling, I was head of

1 discipline, I was head of faculty council, I  
 2 was assistant principal, I taught, I had the  
 3 religion department. What else? I worked  
 4 hard.  
 5 Q. As a head of counseling, that means if kids  
 6 had problems, they'd often get sent to you as  
 7 assistant principal and the head of  
 8 counseling?  
 9 A. Plus that, plus parent interaction, plus all  
 10 the testing that kids go through from the Iowa  
 11 tests of achievement to college entrance  
 12 exams, I did that.  
 13 Q. It sounds like you were working very hard as a  
 14 priest in those years. Is that fair to say?  
 15 A. That's true.  
 16 Q. Do you think you worked too hard?  
 17 A. No.  
 18 Q. Do you think that your acting out with  
 19 and engaging him in sexual contact at the age  
 20 of 14 -- why do you think you acted out on him  
 21 at that time and what was going on in your  
 22 life that caused you to do that to him?  
 23 A. I have a letter from , which I think came  
 24 up during the Mrozka trial, in which he states  
 25 that maybe the first time or two the

1 initiation of sexual contact was my doing,  
 2 after that it was his doing, his choice.  
 3 Q. So if I'm hearing you correct, he communicated  
 4 to you by letter that you had started it, but,  
 5 then, he kind of got turned on by it and then  
 6 he would initiate it after you began, right?  
 7 A. That's right.  
 8 Q. When you started and initiated the sexual  
 9 contact with him, why do you think you did  
 10 that? What was going on in your life when you  
 11 look back at that?  
 12 A. I don't know.  
 13 Q. Did you at that time in your state of mind,  
 14 did you realize, look, I'm a priest, I'm an  
 15 adult, this is a kid, this is a crime? Did  
 16 that go through your head?  
 17 A. Never. I don't think I -- I looked at it more  
 18 as a sin than -- than a crime.  
 19 Q. And did you ever share the fact that you felt  
 20 you were committing a sin with anybody to try  
 21 to be absolved from it?  
 22 A. Well, maybe a priest confessor, but, no. I  
 23 didn't share it with anyone else.  
 24 Q. And when you did share it with a priest  
 25 confessor, were you ever told by the priest

1 confessor, "This is something that needs to  
2 not only stop, but needs to go to law  
3 enforcement and we might need to relieve the  
4 seal of confession so it can"?

5 **A. Never heard that.**

6 MR. BRAUN: Counsel, I'm going to  
7 object to that question, invades the  
8 priest/penitent privilege, as you are aware,  
9 and seeks privileged information from this  
10 witness. So you're asking about a priest  
11 who's unidentified, but when he's talking to  
12 him in the confessional, it's not appropriate.  
13 BY MR. ANDERSON:

14 **Q.** Okay. You were, then, the assistant principal  
15 at Lourdes with a lot of tasks, being a  
16 priest, living in the rectory, head of  
17 counseling and the other things you identified  
18 and you were in that capacity for -- was it a  
19 year?

20 **A. Yes.**

21 **Q.** What caused you to be moved from that  
22 assignment after such a short period of time?

23 **A. It had nothing to do with my work or my  
24 conduct. It had to do with a priest who was  
25 superintendent in Caledonia was leaving**

1 **priesthood to get married and they needed  
2 somebody to run those schools and so I was in  
3 line or that was me.**

4 **Q.** Okay.

5 **A. So that was very difficult moving from one  
6 year to the next year to the next year.**

7 **Q.** And kind of out of the ordinary, too, was it  
8 not --

9 **A. Yes.**

10 **Q.** -- to be moved that quickly? And was it  
11 because a need had been -- come up for -- was  
12 it kind of a promotion for you to become a  
13 superintendent of Catholic schools, to go from  
14 assistant principal?

15 **A. You're comparing a small school with Lourdes  
16 and that's not very -- very comparable. I  
17 liked Lourdes.**

18 **Q.** So you really didn't want to move? You were  
19 happy at Lourdes?

20 **A. Yes.**

21 **Q.** Okay. But it was the bishop's decision to  
22 move you and he made it?

23 **A. His decision, whoever advises him.**

24 **Q.** Did he make that decision and assign you out  
25 of Lourdes without consulting you or asking

1 your view or preference?

2 **A. Yes.**

3 **Q.** Did you protest after you learned?

4 **A. No.**

5 **Q.** Okay. Because you were required to obey?

6 **A. Yes.**

7 **Q.** Any kids that you engaged in sexual contact  
8 while you're assigned at Lourdes and  
9 counseling and the other assignments --

10 **A. No.**

11 **Q.** -- beyond the sexual contact that continued  
12 with

13 **A. No.**

14 **Q.** What sexual contact did you engage in with  
15 when he was 14, 15 and while you were at  
16 St. Adrian and at Lourdes?

17 **A. Well, I think that got more involved. It  
18 probably started with masturbation and  
19 developed from there.**

20 **Q.** And give us specifically what -- how it  
21 developed and what was done by you.

22 **A. Well, it was more frequent, probably included  
23 oral sex eventually.**

24 **Q.** And where would this happen? Where would this  
25 occur?

1 **A. Anyplace.**

2 **Q.** In the rectory?

3 **A. Well, yes, I'll just say yes.**

4 **Q.** In the car?

5 **A. In the car, yes.**

6 **Q.** When you'd go on -- would you take him to like  
7 saunas or YMCAs or recreational outings?

8 **A. We did a lotta sports together, yes.**

9 **Q.** How often in the years '61 to '62, in that  
10 two-year time frame, would you estimate you  
11 engaged in masturbation, oral sex or other  
12 kinds of sexual activity with him?

13 **A. I don't know. I'll say once a month.**

14 **Q.** Did you tell him that this was okay to do?

15 **A. Indirectly.**

16 **Q.** How did you indirectly communicate that to  
17 him?

18 **A. Just by doing it, I think.**

19 **Q.** Did you actually, when you told him that,  
20 believe that at the time?

21 **A. I knew it was wrong, I knew it was, you know,  
22 again back to being a -- a sinful activity, I  
23 didn't see it much more than that.**

24 **Q.** Okay. And is it fair to say, then, you really  
25 didn't appreciate the gravity of it and the

1 seriousness of it --

2 **A. Yes.**

3 **Q.** -- during that time? When did you first come

4 to an appreciation of the seriousness and the

5 gravity of you as a priest engaging in sexual

6 contact with a teenager such as that?

7 **A. Probably not till the lawsuits came.**

8 **Q.** And what year do you estimate the first

9 lawsuit came?

10 **A. (No response).**

11 **Q.** What's your best estimate?

12 **A. '80 -- '84, 1984.**

13 **Q.** Okay.

14 **A. I'm not sure.**

15 **Q.** Fair enough. Are you referring to a suit

16 where I represented the kid?

17 **A. Yes.**

18 **Q.** And would that be the kid whose initials are

19 GR?

20 **A. Yes.**

21 **Q.** And what was it, then -- you said that was the

22 time in which you appreciated the seriousness

23 or the gravity of what you had done, and for

24 purposes of this, let's say it's approximately

25 1984, what was it that happened in 1984 that

1 made you appreciate the gravity and the

2 seriousness of what you had done to that kid,

3 or other youth before?

4 **A. Well, it became more public and others knew of**

5 **it and -- and the criminality became a whole**

6 **new issue.**

7 **Q.** Is that the first time you saw it as a crime

8 and appreciated it to be a criminal conduct?

9 **A. I think, yes.**

10 **Q.** And at that time do you recall having

11 conversations with either the bishops or other

12 officials of the Diocese of Winona or the

13 archdiocese about your exposure and the

14 statute of limitations for criminal

15 prosecution and what the time frame was for

16 your exposure?

17 **A. I don't know when I would have talked with the**

18 **-- any bishop. I talked with -- Ted Collins**

19 **became my attorney --**

20 MR. GEHAN: Just a minute now.

21 Don't talk about your conversations with

22 lawyers, okay?

23 THE WITNESS: Okay.

24 BY MR. ANDERSON:

25 **Q.** I'm talking about the officials now. There's

1 some indications that Robert Carlson was

2 making some calculations of statute of

3 limitations. Do you remember talking with him

4 about that?

5 **A. No.**

6 **Q.** Okay. Do you remember Robert Carlson ever

7 talking to you about your exposure and your

8 possible exposure for your conduct, that is,

9 being prosecuted for the crime of sexual abuse

10 against minors and the statute of limitations

11 for that?

12 **A. I talked with him. I don't remember what we**

13 **talked about.**

14 **Q.** Did any bishop, that is, Bishop Fitzgerald,

15 Bishop Watters or those in the Archdiocese of

16 St. Paul and Minneapolis who were bishops ever

17 tell you that what you had done was a crime?

18 **A. I don't remember that, no.**

19 **Q.** So beyond , in the time frame of

20 being assistant principal and in other

21 capacities in Rochester Lourdes, do you recall

22 or did you engage any other kids in sexual

23 conduct?

24 **A. At that time?**

25 **Q.** Yes.

1 **A. No.**

2 **Q.** Are you pretty sure of that or not so sure?

3 **A. I'm sure of that, I think.**

4 **Q.** You say you're sure of that you think. What

5 makes you sure of that --

6 **A. Well, what year are you talking about?**

7 **Q.** We're talking then, according to the

8 assignment history, you were assigned there

9 from St. Adrian's on August 16th, '62, and

10 then you're there for a year, that year of

11 '62 to '63, August of '62 to August of '63.

12 **A. And I didn't have contact with others, no.**

13 **Q.** Okay.

14 (Discussion out of the hearing of

15 the court reporter)

16 BY MR. ANDERSON:

17 **Q.** So let's go back to that one year, then, when

18 you're at Rochester Lourdes. Did you touch

19 any other -- did you touch any other kids

20 besides -- okay. I guess I asked you, you

21 didn't touch any other kids. What about St.

22 Adrian, were there any other kids you had

23 touched besides

24 **A. No.**

25 **Q.** Did Don Leary ever raise concerns to you about

1 the relationship with these kids and the  
2 numbers you had with them or the frequency of  
3 contacts with them?  
4 **A. Well, Leary was at Lourdes.**  
5 **Q.** Yes.  
6 **A. And -- and I wasn't having those kinds of**  
7 **contacts.**  
8 **Q.** Okay.  
9 (Discussion out of the hearing of  
10 the court reporter)  
11 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
12 **Q.** Did anybody at Adrian ever raise any concerns  
13 about your interest in the kids or your  
14 relationship to any of the kids or anything  
15 like that?  
16 **A. No.**  
17 **Q.** Did any parents ever raise questions to you?  
18 **A. No.**  
19 **Q.** When's the first time a parent raised  
20 questions about your relationship to their  
21 kids?  
22 **A. Mrs. Riedel.**  
23 **Q.** What year was that?  
24 **A. Ash Wednesday of 1984.**  
25 **Q.** Were you aware that the mom and the dad of

1 raised serious concerns about you  
2 having sexually abused before you were  
3 moved out of the Diocese of Winona?  
4 **A. Well, what do you mean before I moved out of**  
5 **the Diocese of Winona? After those other**  
6 **public things?**  
7 **Q.** Yeah, before there was anything public and  
8 before Mrs. Riedel raised concerns in 1984,  
9 hadn't the parents of -- what were the  
10 parents' names?  
11 **A. and**  
12 **Q.** Hadn't and gone to Bishop Watters and  
13 raised concerns about --  
14 **A. I never knew that.**  
15 **Q.** When did you first learn that they had?  
16 **A. Just now. I never heard that.**  
17 **Q.** Well, why did you think you were moved out of  
18 the Diocese of Winona to the Archdiocese of  
19 St. Paul and Minneapolis?  
20 MR. BRAUN: Objection, foundation.  
21 If you know, you can answer that question.  
22 **A. Repeat the question.**  
23 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
24 **Q.** Why do you think you were moved and  
25 transferred out the Diocese of Winona into the

1 Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis?  
2 MR. BRAUN: Same objection.  
3 **A. It -- it had to do with the for one**  
4 **thing, basically that.**  
5 **BY MR. ANDERSON:**  
6 **Q.** Okay. And what did you understand the  
7 had done that caused you to be transferred out  
8 of the Diocese of Winona?  
9 **A. Well, it was in relation to what was going on**  
10 **in life. He'd become a priest and he**  
11 **was going through Guest House for alcohol**  
12 **treatment and he talked to his brother and**  
13 **maybe his parents, I don't know that, that I**  
14 **had abused him.**  
15 **Q.** And you became aware that that was brought --  
16 information brought forth by the to  
17 Bishop Fitz -- well, actually, it was then  
18 Bishop Watters, correct?  
19 **A. The -- I don't know his parents doing anything**  
20 **there, but I know his brother was**  
21 **antagonistic.**  
22 **Q.** His brother was mad, wasn't he?  
23 **A. Yes, I mean, he was mad all his life, but he**  
24 **was particularly mad then.**  
25 **Q.** He was mad about you having abused his

1 brother, correct?  
2 **A. Yes.**  
3 **Q.** And which brother is it that was so mad about  
4 that?  
5 **A. was the one I had abused.**  
6 **Q.** I know. But brother was mad --  
7 **A. Oh, his name was**  
8 **Q.** Okay. And you learned that brought at  
9 least the information forward that you had  
10 abused to the bishop, correct?  
11 **A. I don't know that.**  
12 **Q.** So the bishop never told you that?  
13 MR. BRAUN: Which bishop are you  
14 referring to?  
15 MR. ANDERSON: Bishop Watters.  
16 **A. I don't -- I don't think he involved**  
17 **into our conversations. I don't remember**  
18 **that.**  
19 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
20 **Q.** How many conversations did you have with  
21 Bishop Watters before you were moved out of  
22 the Diocese of Winona that were the topic of  
23 your sexual abuse?  
24 **A. Several.**  
25 **Q.** And that would be like five or six?

- 1 **A. That's okay.**  
 2 **Q.** Yeah. When did it first occur? And tell us a  
 3 little bit about how that all came about.  
 4 **A. Well, had threatened me, he was a --**  
 5 **he was an employee of me of the parish at that**  
 6 **time and he was gonna make a public stance and**  
 7 **that was the threat and the -- and the bishop**  
 8 **knew that, and I don't know how the bishop**  
 9 **knew, if he told him, or I think other faculty**  
 10 **maybe were involved, I don't know that.**  
 11 **Q.** How did you learn he had threatened you? Was  
 12 that directly or in the presence of others?  
 13 How did that come to your attention that he  
 14 threatened you?  
 15 **A. Well, I don't think he -- he didn't talk to me**  
 16 **directly. I think he might have talked to**  
 17 **other priests, I think he talked to Father**  
 18 **Jansen, who was a senior pastor in Rochester,**  
 19 **at least he was involved in this whole thing,**  
 20 **and Jansen might have talked to the bishop,**  
 21 **but I don't know.**  
 22 **Q.** And then did that cause the bishop to call you  
 23 in and say, "What's this about?"  
 24 **A. Well, eventually we met, I don't know what --**  
 25 **I don't know the time frame there.**

- 1 **Q.** Okay. Tell me about the first meeting or  
 2 conversation with the bishop where the topic  
 3 of you having been accused of sexual abuse was  
 4 discussed.  
 5 **A. He would have come to see me at that late --**  
 6 **early wintertime I think was the time frame.**  
 7 **Q.** And this was the winter of which year?  
 8 **A. The winter of '74.**  
 9 **Q.** And you were at what location then?  
 10 **A. I was at St. Francis parish.**  
 11 **Q.** And tell us what he said to you and --  
 12 **A. I don't know what he said except that he was**  
 13 **aware of the abuse and the threats and -- and**  
 14 **what to do about it, I guess.**  
 15 **Q.** And did you admit to him that you had abused  
 16 the kid?  
 17 **A. Yes.**  
 18 **Q.** And did he tell you -- what did he tell you at  
 19 that time about how he became aware first?  
 20 **A. Well, I don't remember who -- who made him**  
 21 **aware.**  
 22 **Q.** Okay. In any case, he had learned about it?  
 23 **A. Yes.**  
 24 **Q.** And he asked you if you had done it?  
 25 **A. Yes.**

- 1 **Q.** And you said, yes, you had?  
 2 **A. Yes.**  
 3 **Q.** Did he ask you at that time if you'd abused  
 4 any other kids?  
 5 **A. I don't remember that, no.**  
 6 **Q.** And how long was that first meeting where this  
 7 was the topic of your conversation with him?  
 8 **A. I don't know.**  
 9 **Q.** I trust there's a part of that conversation  
 10 that probably remains vivid for you. Is this  
 11 the first time you've been confronted by your  
 12 bishop about sexual abuse or had you been  
 13 confronted by his predecessor, Bishop  
 14 Fitzgerald?  
 15 **A. I'd been confronted by Fitzgerald.**  
 16 **Q.** And when had you been confronted by Bishop  
 17 Fitzgerald?  
 18 **A. It concerned a case in Caledonia.**  
 19 **Q.** And what is the year that Bishop Fitzgerald  
 20 confronted you?  
 21 **A. I think 1964, I'll say.**  
 22 **Q.** Okay. And I'm going to go -- I'm going to try  
 23 to work chronologically, so I'll work back in  
 24 time first with the conversations about Bishop  
 25 Fitzgerald and him confronting you with the

- 1 complaint or reports of sexual abuse of  
 2 minors. In Caledonia, tell me, tell us what  
 3 happened. How did Bishop Fitzgerald come to  
 4 you and raise this as an issue or problem?  
 5 **A. Well, I had abused a boy there and he reported**  
 6 **it to another priest and the priest reported**  
 7 **it to the bishop's office.**  
 8 **Q.** Who's the priest it had been reported to?  
 9 **A. Father Hubzackis (ph).**  
 10 **Q.** And how old was that boy you had abused?  
 11 **A. I think 14.**  
 12 **Q.** And where had you been assigned when you  
 13 abused the boy?  
 14 **A. In Caledonia, Minnesota.**  
 15 **Q.** And that's when you were the superintendent of  
 16 schools and the assistant at St. John's?  
 17 **A. Yes.**  
 18 **Q.** And his parents were parishioners there?  
 19 **A. Yes, I think so.**  
 20 **Q.** Look at the Doe list and see if the name of  
 21 that kid is on there, would you?  
 22 **MR. GEHAN:** Here it is.  
 23 **A. I don't think it's on here.**  
 24 **BY MR. ANDERSON:**  
 25 **Q.** Okay.

1 MR. GEHAN: Take your time and read  
2 it.  
3 **A. (Examining documents).**  
4 **BY MR. ANDERSON:**  
5 **Q.** What I'm going to have you do is, if his name  
6 isn't on there, Mr. Adamson, I'm going to have  
7 you write in your own pen on the list, just  
8 number it next to Doe 38, you'll see it's  
9 blank, write his name in there, would you?  
10 **A. (Indicating).**  
11 MR. WIESER: Counsel, before we go  
12 any further, can the witness just pass that  
13 around so we can all see who that is and we  
14 can make a note of that?  
15 MR. ANDERSON: Sure.  
16 THE WITNESS: Can I go to the  
17 bathroom, please?  
18 MR. ANDERSON: Oh, sure. Let's take  
19 a break.  
20 MR. LEANN: Off the record at 12:35  
21 p.m.  
22 (Recess taken)  
23 MR. LEANN: Back on the video record  
24 at 1:28 p.m.  
25 **BY MR. ANDERSON:**

1 **Q.** All right. Mr. Adamson, while we were off the  
2 record, we had asked you to add a name to the  
3 Doe list and you did write in at number 38 the  
4 name of an individual, but you also indicated  
5 you weren't positive about the first name  
6 and/or the spelling of the last name, correct?  
7 **A. That's right.**  
8 **Q.** Okay. And so that's now noted at least in  
9 Exhibit A, correct?  
10 **A. Okay.**  
11 (Discussion out of the hearing of  
12 the court reporter)  
13 **BY MR. ANDERSON:**  
14 **Q.** So before the break, then, we were going back  
15 to the first time that the bishop, then  
16 Fitzgerald, confronted you on a report of  
17 sexual molestation, and I think you had told  
18 us that he called you into the office?  
19 **A. Yes.**  
20 **Q.** And at that time was it just you and he or  
21 anybody else present?  
22 **A. Just the two of us.**  
23 **Q.** And at that time you were assigned at  
24 Caledonia, superintendent of the Catholic  
25 schools?

1 **A. Yes.**  
2 **Q.** And assistant at St. John's?  
3 **A. Yes.**  
4 **Q.** And what did the bishop say to you?  
5 **A. He was -- he had just gotten back from a**  
6 **Vatican Council, so there was a time lapse**  
7 **there. And he was just -- all I remember him**  
8 **saying is this is serious and he was**  
9 **disappointed, those were the biggest things**  
10 **that I remember.**  
11 **Q.** Did he give you, without using the name of the  
12 individual, but we've identified it as Doe 38,  
13 did he give you the -- tell you how he had  
14 learned you had been accused of molesting the  
15 child?  
16 **A. I don't think that was mentioned. I don't**  
17 **recall him using the name, no.**  
18 **Q.** Okay. Do you recall how he knew that such a  
19 claim had been made?  
20 **A. Well, from the report, the -- this , I'm**  
21 **not sure his name is , but --**  
22 **Q.** Okay.  
23 **A. -- he talked to a priest, the priest talked to**  
24 **the office and -- and the office talked to me**  
25 **and then when the bishop got back to the**

1 **States, he talked to me.**  
2 **Q.** And did you tell me the priest was -- what was  
3 the priest's name?  
4 **A. Zeches.**  
5 **Q.** Z-e-c-h --  
6 **A. E-s.**  
7 **Q.** -- e-s.  
8 **A. He's deceased.**  
9 **Q.** And did you learn how Father Zeches had  
10 learned of the claim of molestation?  
11 **A. I think one of the -- either one of the people**  
12 **involved or someone talked to him and I don't**  
13 **know who that was.**  
14 **Q.** And what had you done to that youth that you  
15 identified that now has been reported to the  
16 bishop's office?  
17 **A. I think there was masturbation.**  
18 **Q.** You masturbating him?  
19 **A. Yes.**  
20 **Q.** At what location?  
21 **A. Probably in the gym or the school (Shrugs**  
22 **shoulders).**  
23 **Q.** And a number of times, so it could have been  
24 both?  
25 **A. Yes.**



- 1 Q. While at that particular assignment, how many  
2 kids do you estimate you engaged in sexual  
3 conduct, contact with besides this kid?  
4 A. **I think there was one other.**  
5 Q. And do you remember his name?  
6 A.  
7 Q. Okay. Why don't you, instead of stating his  
8 name, is he on the list?  
9 A. **Doe 6.**  
10 Q. Okay. We'll refer to him as Doe 6. And what  
11 did you do to Doe 6?  
12 A. **I don't remember that very well, but I know**  
13 **there was some sexual contact there and that's**  
14 **-- that's all.**  
15 Q. How old was Doe 6?  
16 A. **Probably 14, I don't know.**  
17 Q. And how old was Doe 38?  
18 A. **Fourteen.**  
19 Q. Okay. And how did you come to access these  
20 kids as a priest?  
21 A. **I was coaching again and they were on the**  
22 **team, both of them.**  
23 Q. And when you met with the bishop, did the  
24 bishop's office talk to you or call you before  
25 you actually had that meeting and say, "You

- 1 got to get in here and we got a problem"?  
2 A. **I don't know who set that up.**  
3 Q. Okay. Somebody set it up?  
4 A. **Yes.**  
5 Q. It wasn't the bishop; do you remember who?  
6 A. **Well, it would have been his secretary or his**  
7 **-- his chancellor. The person who had talked**  
8 **with me was Father Dittman.**  
9 (Discussion out of the hearing of  
10 the court reporter)  
11 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
12 Q. So when the bishop was in Rome, the first  
13 contact with you was made to set up the  
14 meeting, is that right?  
15 A. **Well, Father Dittman talked with me.**  
16 Q. Yeah. Okay. So was the bishop, then, in Rome  
17 when Dittman first talked to you?  
18 A. **Yes.**  
19 Q. And said, "When the bishop comes back from  
20 Rome" --  
21 A. **"He'll talk" --**  
22 Q. "He'll sit down with you"?  
23 A. **Yes.**  
24 Q. Got it. What else did Father Dittman tell you  
25 about what he had learned and why you now

- 1 needed to meet with the bishop?  
2 A. **Well, I think I just remember it as the -- as**  
3 **the basics, that I had touched this boy and --**  
4 **and he was gonna tell the bishop and that was**  
5 **it.**  
6 Q. Okay. Harold Dittman was then the vicar  
7 general, wasn't he?  
8 A. **I'm not sure of that. Perhaps.**  
9 Q. The records I have show that he was vicar  
10 general from 1960 to '69. Does that sound --  
11 A. **It could be. They had different titles for**  
12 **things then, different capacities.**  
13 Q. The official Catholic directory refers to  
14 that, in any case.  
15 A. **Okay.**  
16 Q. When Harold Dittman confronted you with this  
17 information, did you admit to him that you had  
18 done that?  
19 A. **Yes.**  
20 Q. What did you tell him you had done?  
21 A. **That I had sexual contact with him. I don't**  
22 **know how detailed it was. I don't think it**  
23 **was very detailed.**  
24 Q. And there was no question that he knew and you  
25 knew that it was a kid when the contact had

- 1 occurred?  
2 A. **Yes.**  
3 Q. Was there discussion of the fact that this was  
4 a police matter or anything like that?  
5 A. **No.**  
6 Q. How long after the call from Dittman did you  
7 actually meet with the bishop, then, on his  
8 return from Rome?  
9 A. **I don't know. Three weeks, I'll guess.**  
10 Q. Okay. And how long was meeting with the  
11 bishop?  
12 A. **Less than an hour.**  
13 Q. And in it, what did the bishop say to you  
14 and --  
15 A. **Same things I just said, that it was serious**  
16 **and he was disappointed in me.**  
17 Q. And you admitted to him that you had done it  
18 just as you admitted to Dittman, correct?  
19 A. **Yes.**  
20 Q. And is it also correct to say that he did not  
21 ask you if you had done it to any other kids  
22 at that time?  
23 A. **Yes.**  
24 Q. That's correct?  
25 A. **Yes.**

- 1 Q. And at that time you've already told us you  
2 had already began and were engaging in sexual  
3 contact with , correct?  
4 A. Yes.  
5 Q. And what action did the bishop take or tell  
6 you that he was going to take, if anything, as  
7 a result of the information discussed in this  
8 meeting?  
9 A. **I don't remember anything except the -- the**  
10 **seriousness of it and -- and that it was a --**  
11 **an important matter.**  
12 Q. Did you continue to see that kid?  
13 A. No.  
14 Q. Did you continue to see the other kid who you  
15 identified as one you had abused?  
16 A. No.  
17 Q. Did you continue to see ?  
18 A. Yes.  
19 Q. And you did continue to abuse kids, didn't  
20 you?  
21 A. Yes.  
22 Q. There is a report of some information -- on  
23 the Doe list, if you look at number 26, and I  
24 want -- I don't want you to say the name, but  
25 I want you to see the name next to 26. Do you

- 1 recognize that name?  
2 A. Yes.  
3 Q. Okay. Did you have some kind of relationship  
4 to that kid?  
5 A. **Not a sexual relationship, no.**  
6 Q. Okay. He has reported that you engaged him in  
7 some sexual contact when he was in the sixth  
8 to the eighth grade at your farm, the family  
9 farm, when he was at St. Mary's school and  
10 also in the gym there in approximately 1958.  
11 Did you do that or anything like that --  
12 A. **I think you got the wrong names or situations**  
13 **there.**  
14 Q. Okay.  
15 A. **Doe 26?**  
16 Q. Yeah. Yeah, the initials are  
17 A. Yes.  
18 Q. Yeah, okay.  
19 A. **He was never at my farm.**  
20 Q. He wasn't, okay. Was there a kid that you did  
21 abuse at the farm?  
22 A. No.  
23 Q. Okay. Were there kids that you had at the  
24 farm?  
25 A. **Well, would have been at our farm.**

- 1 Q. Doe 26 says that in the late 1950s,  
2 identifying '58 as the point in time, you  
3 engaged in a form of oral copulation with him.  
4 Did you do that?  
5 A. No.  
6 Q. Do you deny ever having engaged in any sexual  
7 contact with him at all?  
8 A. **Deny everything.**  
9 Q. Okay. How did you know him?  
10 A. **He was a student at -- in Winona.**  
11 Q. Okay. While you were at St. Catherine's?  
12 A. Yes.  
13 Q. Were you alone with him?  
14 A. **Well, perhaps, but never for -- for sex, no.**  
15 Q. What were the circumstances under which you  
16 would have been alone with him at St.  
17 Catherine's?  
18 A. **Well, he was -- he was an excellent athlete**  
19 **and he played probably varsity sports by the**  
20 **time he was a -- a freshman in high school,**  
21 **went on to -- to star in sports at St. John's.**  
22 **I knew him and the family, but I never had any**  
23 **sexual contact with him.**  
24 Q. So after you had this meeting with -- when  
25 Bishop Fitzgerald met with you and said he was

- 1 -- he said this was serious and he was  
2 disappointed in you, what was your response to  
3 him after having admitted to having engaged in  
4 the conduct?  
5 A. **I suppose I did a quasi apology or said I -- I**  
6 **was sorry, whatever, I -- I don't -- I can't**  
7 **reconstruct that conversation.**  
8 Q. Okay. Do you think you -- did you feel sorry  
9 at that time?  
10 A. **Yes, I think I was sorry.**  
11 Q. Why did you think you were sorry?  
12 A. **Well, I realized it was serious and that he**  
13 **was my boss and he was on the case and --**  
14 Q. Did you have concerns that the bishop would  
15 take you out of the priesthood at all?  
16 A. **I don't think he suggested that.**  
17 Q. Okay. So he never gave you any indication  
18 that it was serious enough for him to say,  
19 "I'm going to take you out of ministry, I'm  
20 going to remove you from the clerical state or  
21 I'm going to do anything other than say to  
22 you, 'Don't do it, again,'" right?  
23 A. **That's correct.**  
24 Q. Did he say to you, "Don't do it again"?  
25 A. **I don't think he said that. I don't -- no. I**

1 **don't know that.**  
 2 **Q.** So anything else said in the meeting by you or  
 3 him where he confronted you with this  
 4 information that you haven't identified that  
 5 you do remember having been said?  
 6 **A. I don't remember that conversation, except the**  
 7 **-- the general tone of it. That's --**  
 8 **Q.** Fair enough.  
 9 **A. -- what, 50 years ago.**  
 10 **Q.** And did he transfer you from that parish?  
 11 **A. Yes.**  
 12 **Q.** How soon after the meeting?  
 13 **A. I don't know if he set it up then, but it was**  
 14 **soon.**  
 15 **Q.** And did you continue to say Mass at the parish  
 16 until you were assigned to the next parish?  
 17 **A. In Caledonia, no. I left there right after**  
 18 **Father Dittman talked to me.**  
 19 **Q.** Okay. And where did you go?  
 20 **A. I probably went to my family or home or to**  
 21 **Rochester with other priests. I -- I don't --**  
 22 **I -- I wasn't in Caledonia.**  
 23 **Q.** What were the parishioners told, as far as you  
 24 know, about your departure and it kind of  
 25 seemed sudden?

1 **A. I don't know that.**  
 2 **Q.** Didn't any contact you and say, "Hey, what's  
 3 going on, Father? Why aren't you in Mass?  
 4 Where did you go?"  
 5 **A. No one contacted me.**  
 6 **Q.** How long, then, were you out of ministry after  
 7 Father Dittman had called you and confronted  
 8 you?  
 9 **A. A few weeks at most.**  
 10 **Q.** There was a farewell party there, wasn't  
 11 there?  
 12 **A. No.**  
 13 **Q.** There wasn't any --  
 14 **A. No.**  
 15 **Q.** -- celebration at all?  
 16 **A. No.**  
 17 **Q.** And where were you, then, assigned by the  
 18 bishop?  
 19 **A. To Rochester Lourdes.**  
 20 **Q.** Okay. And did the bishop tell anyone at  
 21 Rochester Lourdes where you're now assigned  
 22 what he knew and the reason he had removed you  
 23 from your earlier parish?  
 24 **MR. BRAUN:** Objection, speculation,  
 25 foundation. You can answer the question as to

1 what you know.  
 2 **A. I don't know that at all.**  
 3 **BY MR. ANDERSON:**  
 4 **Q.** Did you tell anyone at Rochester Lourdes about  
 5 the bishop having gotten that information --  
 6 **A. Yes.**  
 7 **Q.** -- and removed you from the parish? Who did  
 8 you tell?  
 9 **MR. GEHAN:** Let him finish the  
 10 question.  
 11 **THE WITNESS:** I'm sorry.  
 12 **A. I told Father Leary.**  
 13 **BY MR. ANDERSON:**  
 14 **Q.** That's Donald Leary?  
 15 **A. Yes.**  
 16 **Q.** You told him because you trusted him?  
 17 **A. Yes.**  
 18 **Q.** And you felt he'd keep that between you and  
 19 he?  
 20 **A. Yes.**  
 21 **Q.** And to your knowledge, did he keep it quiet?  
 22 **A. Yes, as far as I know.**  
 23 **Q.** And was he also a pastor at -- was he at  
 24 Lourdes then?  
 25 **A. We lived in the Lourdes rectory, yes.**

1 **Q.** Okay. When you -- what did you tell Father  
 2 Donald Leary?  
 3 **A. Well, that's about as detailed as we've talked**  
 4 **about here, that I molested that kid.**  
 5 **Q.** And that it got reported to Dittman and  
 6 Dittman reported it to the bishop and the  
 7 bishop had confronted you and removed you from  
 8 the parish because of it?  
 9 **A. Yes.**  
 10 **Q.** So how long were you, then, at Rochester  
 11 Lourdes after that removal?  
 12 **A. Two-and-a-half years, I think, from that fall**  
 13 **time till another year-and-a-half, as far as I**  
 14 **recall.**  
 15 **Q.** And before that, how long had you been at  
 16 Caledonia?  
 17 **A. Year-and-a-half.**  
 18 **Q.** And while at Caledonia, how many kids would  
 19 you estimate you had molested in that  
 20 assignment?  
 21 **A. I think two.**  
 22 **Q.** Do you know Father Jim Fitzpatrick?  
 23 **A. Yes.**  
 24 **Q.** Are you aware of him having reported to then  
 25 Bishop Fitzgerald that he received information

- 1 that you had molested a number of kids?
- 2 **A. Well, I heard that through your articles or**
- 3 **something -- place, but that's the only thing**
- 4 **I knew about that.**
- 5 **Q.** In the mid-1960s, had you received from either
- 6 him, Bishop Fitzgerald or any other of your
- 7 colleague priests that Fitzpatrick had gotten
- 8 such a report and made it to the bishop?
- 9 **A. I never heard that till recently.**
- 10 **Q.** Okay. Look at the Doe list and look at the
- 11 name next to Doe 5. And first, my question
- 12 is, without using his name, do you identify --
- 13 do you know that name?
- 14 **A. Yes.**
- 15 **Q.** Had you spent time alone with that individual
- 16 when he was a kid in 1964?
- 17 **A. Yes.**
- 18 **Q.** How did you come to know him and spend time
- 19 with him alone?
- 20 **A. Through his mother, his mother asked me to**
- 21 **spend time with him.**
- 22 **Q.** Was he having trouble or was he --
- 23 **A. Well, he --**
- 24 **Q.** -- his father absent or what?
- 25 **A. Eventually he was having a lot of troubles**

- 1 **that I didn't know about then, but that came**
- 2 **to light later. His mother --**
- 3 MR. GEHAN: Tom, let him finish his
- 4 questions.
- 5 THE WITNESS: Okay.
- 6 MR. GEHAN: Don't interrupt him.
- 7 THE WITNESS: Sorry.
- 8 MR. GEHAN: And then just answer the
- 9 question, okay?
- 10 BY MR. ANDERSON:
- 11 **Q.** So the kid was having some trouble and the
- 12 mother had asked you to help him, is that
- 13 correct?
- 14 **A. Yes.**
- 15 **Q.** And that kid, Doe 5, was about how old then?
- 16 **A. Thirteen, 14.**
- 17 **Q.** And did you engage him in some sexual conduct?
- 18 **A. No.**
- 19 **Q.** None at all?
- 20 **A. No.**
- 21 **Q.** You're certain of that?
- 22 **A. Yes.**
- 23 **Q.** In earlier testimony there's some indication
- 24 that Father Lovas -- you remember Father
- 25 Lovas?

- 1 **A. Yes.**
- 2 **Q.** -- that he received some information that you
- 3 may have done something to some kids. What do
- 4 you know about what he learned back then?
- 5 **A. He's never given me any information.**
- 6 **Q.** There's some indication that Father
- 7 Connolly -- you know then Father Connolly,
- 8 that he learned of some information back then.
- 9 Do you know what he learned about this?
- 10 **A. I don't think that's true.**
- 11 **Q.** There's also Father Bertran. Do you know who
- 12 Father Bertran is?
- 13 **A. Yes.**
- 14 **Q.** I don't know if he's still alive. Is he?
- 15 **A. Yes.**
- 16 **Q.** Do you know if he received any information
- 17 about you having done something to kids back
- 18 then?
- 19 **A. No. Never heard that.**
- 20 **Q.** Jim Fitzpatrick has reported that he received
- 21 reports from two different families that you
- 22 had molested their kids, their boys while in
- 23 Caledonia and that he had received information
- 24 that you had abused 17 boys and he reported
- 25 that to Bishop Fitzgerald. My question to you

- 1 is, do you know anything about that?
- 2 **A. I don't think that happened.**
- 3 **Q.** You don't think that he reported it or you
- 4 don't think you had abused 17 kids?
- 5 **A. None of it. I'd say he's not a reliable**
- 6 **person.**
- 7 **Q.** Okay. Why do you say that?
- 8 **A. Well, he -- he had a lotta problems from the**
- 9 **time he became a priest and he was -- I was**
- 10 **his superior at one time and I don't know how**
- 11 **much I wanna say, but he was here at the**
- 12 **school where I had nieces and nephews and he**
- 13 **was dating a nun, and so I guess that's all I**
- 14 **wanna say about it. And he was just a mess**
- 15 **all the way through. And I never had poor**
- 16 **relations -- I was his superior at that time**
- 17 **-- at one time.**
- 18 **Q.** And are you suggesting because he had dated a
- 19 nun, that made him a liar or unreliable
- 20 reporter?
- 21 **A. That's part of it. I had nieces and nephews**
- 22 **at the school there writing Father Jim/Sister**
- 23 **Karen hearts all over the sidewalk and that**
- 24 **was -- I had family members that were aware of**
- 25 **that and that was Jim Fitzpatrick. He ended**

- 1 **up marrying her.**
- 2 **Q.** Yeah. And leaving the priesthood?
- 3 **A.** **Yes.**
- 4 **Q.** Yes. And before I just asked you that
- 5 question and you evidently had read something
- 6 about his account in a paper somewhere, had
- 7 anybody ever told you, including Bishop
- 8 Fitzgerald, that Jim Fitzpatrick had made
- 9 report to him?
- 10 **A.** **No.**
- 11 **Q.** Shortly after the bishop received the
- 12 information that you did report and he met
- 13 with you, you were sent by the bishop to Mayo
- 14 Clinic, were you not, to have some assessment
- 15 done or receive some treatment of some kind?
- 16 **A.** **No.**
- 17 **Q.** Did Father Cashman replace you there?
- 18 **A.** **At Caledonia, yes.**
- 19 **Q.** Yes.
- 20 **A.** **Yes.**
- 21 **Q.** Were you aware that when he did, he had been
- 22 accused of or had molested a kid?
- 23 **A.** **No.**
- 24 **Q.** Have you ever heard that he had?
- 25 **A.** **Yes.**

- 1 **Q.** How did you learn that?
- 2 **A.** **Well, that became common knowledge amongst the**
- 3 **priests. I don't know when.**
- 4 **Q.** In the 1960s?
- 5 **A.** **I don't know.**
- 6 **Q.** Was it before you got -- before he replaced
- 7 you in Caledonia that you heard that?
- 8 **A.** **I don't know.**
- 9 **Q.** Was it common knowledge that he had molested
- 10 more than one kid?
- 11 **A.** **Eventually.**
- 12 **Q.** What assignment were you at when you heard
- 13 that information?
- 14 **A.** **I don't know that.**
- 15 **Q.** Were you ever sent to Mayo for treatment or
- 16 problems by the bishop?
- 17 **A.** **Never.**
- 18 **Q.** When you were at -- assistant principal at
- 19 Rochester Lourdes and assigned there, as far
- 20 as you know, then, the only ones that knew
- 21 that you had molested were -- was Donald
- 22 Leary, who you told and could trust; Father
- 23 Dittman, who had made the call to you; and
- 24 Bishop Fitzgerald, correct?
- 25 **A.** **Yes.**

- 1 **Q.** And did you tell anybody else?
- 2 **A.** **I don't think so.**
- 3 **Q.** And as far as you know, did they tell anybody
- 4 else?
- 5 **A.** **I'd say no.**
- 6 **Q.** Okay. And you were, then, at Rochester
- 7 Lourdes for how long?
- 8 **A.** **I think two-and-a-half years.**
- 9 **Q.** When you were removed from Caledonia, did you
- 10 receive or were you referred by the bishop --
- 11 receive any treatment or referred by the
- 12 bishop for any treatment or assessment by any
- 13 professional?
- 14 **A.** **No.**
- 15 **Q.** At Rochester Lourdes and in that
- 16 year-and-a-half you were there, how many kids
- 17 would you estimate you engaged in some sexual
- 18 conduct?
- 19 **A.** **I don't know of any. I was accused of a**
- 20 **couple things. I never had the names.**
- 21 **Q.** Okay. So you were accused; how were you
- 22 accused and how did you learn you had been
- 23 accused?
- 24 **A.** **I -- I was accused by Father Jansen, who was a**
- 25 **Rochester pastor, or that -- that's how it**

- 1 **came to me.**
- 2 **Q.** And what did Father Jansen tell you?
- 3 **A.** **He told me that I tried to touch a kid or to**
- 4 **ask a kid to undress or something and -- and I**
- 5 **never had a name or any data on that.**
- 6 **Q.** And at that time, because you didn't have the
- 7 name, did you deny it or did you -- what did
- 8 you do responsive to his bringing this
- 9 information to you?
- 10 **A.** **Whatever he was accusing me of, whether it was**
- 11 **trying to look at a kid or whatever, I -- I**
- 12 **would have agreed with it, I think. I -- it**
- 13 **wasn't what I would call a, you know, overt**
- 14 **sexual contact.**
- 15 **Q.** So you said that you had done that, but you
- 16 didn't consider it that serious, is that what
- 17 you're saying?
- 18 **A.** **Yes.**
- 19 **Q.** And what did Father Jansen say he was going to
- 20 do about it --
- 21 **A.** **Well --**
- 22 **Q.** -- if anything.
- 23 **A.** **-- he talked to me.**
- 24 **Q.** Uh huh.
- 25 **A.** **And there might have been another priest**

1 **present, I don't know that for sure.**  
 2 **Q.** And was anything else done by Father Jansen,  
 3 as far as you know, responsive to the  
 4 information he brought to you?  
 5 **A. Well, somewhere along the line, he asked me to**  
 6 **see Dr. Tice, and I don't know what -- when or**  
 7 **what time frame that was, that's just what I**  
 8 **remember seeing him.**  
 9 **Q.** At the time that Jansen confronted you with  
 10 this information, that involved one or two  
 11 kids?  
 12 **A. I think two.**  
 13 **Q.** And you don't know their names?  
 14 **A. No.**  
 15 **Q.** He didn't give you their names?  
 16 **A. No.**  
 17 **Q.** And were you at Rochester Lourdes when you  
 18 were alleged by him to have committed these  
 19 offenses?  
 20 **A. Yes.**  
 21 **Q.** And at some -- you said -- there's also --  
 22 look at the Doe list and look at Doe number 20  
 23 -- excuse me, look at --  
 24 **MR. FINNEGAN:** Doe 34.  
 25 **BY MR. ANDERSON:**

1 **Q.** -- Doe 34. I'd like you to look at that name  
 2 and see first if you recognize the name next  
 3 to Doe 34, yes or no?  
 4 **A. I recognize the family name of I**  
 5 **think.**  
 6 **Q.** Okay. Wait a minute. I don't want you to say  
 7 the name.  
 8 **A. Okay. 34.**  
 9 **Q.** So I'm going to ask you to not be using the  
 10 names.  
 11 **A. Okay.**  
 12 **Q.** So I'm going to ask you to use the Doe. So  
 13 let's go back to Doe 34 and you came to know  
 14 the family of Doe 34, is that correct?  
 15 **A. I know the family name.**  
 16 **Q.** And do you remember having a relationship with  
 17 one of the kids in that family?  
 18 **A. No.**  
 19 **Q.** Okay. Did you sexually abuse or engage in any  
 20 sexual contact with any of the kids from that  
 21 family?  
 22 **A. No.**  
 23 **Q.** Were there any kids that you remember by name  
 24 that you engaged in sexual contact with while  
 25 at Rochester Lourdes?

1 **A. No.**  
 2 **Q.** And you know that Jansen accused you of the  
 3 two. Do you know where he got the information  
 4 concerning the two kids?  
 5 **A. No.**  
 6 **Q.** Do you know if he brought that information to  
 7 Bishop Fitzgerald?  
 8 **A. Don't know.**  
 9 **Q.** You know that Bishop Fitzgerald did not do  
 10 anything at that time -- or what did -- what  
 11 happened after Jansen talked with you about  
 12 the accusation concerning the two kids?  
 13 **A. I think he asked me to see Dr. Tice, who was**  
 14 **head -- head of Rochester state hospital.**  
 15 **Q.** Okay. And did he tell you that he was  
 16 ordering that or the bishop was ordering that?  
 17 **A. He was.**  
 18 **Q.** Okay. And you said he asked you. Did you  
 19 feel like it was voluntary or required?  
 20 **A. I -- I think it was voluntary.**  
 21 **Q.** Okay. Did he have any official position in  
 22 the diocese at that time, besides the pastor  
 23 of the church?  
 24 **A. Over the years, he had positions, but he was**  
 25 **just pastor then, I think.**

1 **Q.** Okay. And so did you start to see Tice?  
 2 **A. Yes.**  
 3 **Q.** Did Tice ever ask you when you saw him to  
 4 assemble a sexual history and identify the  
 5 number of kids that you had engaged in sexual  
 6 contact?  
 7 **A. No.**  
 8 **Q.** Did you get treatment from Tice?  
 9 **A. Yes.**  
 10 **Q.** What kind of treatment?  
 11 **A. Well, it was a one-on-one. I would -- I saw**  
 12 **him afternoons for quite a length of time.**  
 13 **Q.** Was Father Jansen or anybody official from the  
 14 diocese allowed -- the diocese paid for that  
 15 treatment, didn't they?  
 16 **A. I don't think there was payment. I don't know**  
 17 **of payment.**  
 18 **Q.** Okay. Did you make it a secret that you were  
 19 seeing Dr. Tice from your colleagues?  
 20 **A. Yes.**  
 21 **Q.** Why?  
 22 **A. The embarrassment, my business.**  
 23 **Q.** Okay. Do you know what Dr. Tice's diagnosis  
 24 was?  
 25 **A. No.**

1 MR. GEHAN: Object to this -- he  
2 said no.  
3 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
4 Q. Did you ever tell Dr. Tice why Father Jansen  
5 had asked you to go see him?  
6 A. **There must have been some exchange there, but**  
7 **I don't recall what.**  
8 Q. Jansen had some kind of relationship with  
9 Tice?  
10 A. **They, I think, worked together with many**  
11 **people over the years.**  
12 Q. And so you knew that Tice was free to share  
13 some of the information you gave to him with  
14 Father Jansen?  
15 A. **Yes.**  
16 Q. You were, then, made administrator at St.  
17 Clement's in Hammond, were you not?  
18 A. **Yes.**  
19 Q. And when you were made administrator, what did  
20 you understand why you were named and given  
21 the term administrator versus pastor?  
22 A. **I was young, for one thing, and I was -- my**  
23 **full-time work was the high school. This was**  
24 **a Sunday job.**  
25 Q. While there, did it come to your attention

1 that Father Mangen received some information  
2 that you had engaged in some inappropriate  
3 attention or conduct with a young person?  
4 A. **No.**  
5 Q. Do you have any information that Mangen  
6 received or reported any kind of information  
7 like that?  
8 A. **I don't know that. I talked with Mangen once**  
9 **briefly.**  
10 Q. And was there a discussion about your sexual  
11 interest in kids or something you had done  
12 with some of the kids at St. Clement's?  
13 A. **Not at St. Clement's.**  
14 Q. Well, what -- where was your --  
15 A. **I don't know where it was.**  
16 Q. What did you talk to Mangen about and what did  
17 he say and you to him?  
18 A. **I think he just talked to me there are rumors**  
19 **or reports or -- I don't remember anything**  
20 **else.**  
21 Q. Rumors of you doing something towards the  
22 kids?  
23 A. **Yes.**  
24 Q. And did you admit that you had or did you deny  
25 it or kind of evade it?

1 A. **I don't know.**  
2 Q. And as far as you know, did Mangen take any  
3 other action, other than talk to you about  
4 that?  
5 A. **I don't know.**  
6 Q. And you saw Dr. Tice eight to ten times, is  
7 that about right?  
8 A. **I think more than that.**  
9 Q. In one of the exhibits, and I think a 1987  
10 letter to the Vatican Embassy, Bishop -- it's  
11 reported that Bishop Fitzgerald or another  
12 official ordered you to see a psychiatrist for  
13 15 sessions. Would that be correct?  
14 A. **I don't know that.**  
15 Q. Did you see Tice for 15 sessions?  
16 A. **I don't know how many sessions, but it was**  
17 **more than whatever you said previously, I**  
18 **think.**  
19 Q. Does 15 sound closer in number?  
20 A. **I have no idea of involvement of the Vatican**  
21 **if that's what you're saying.**  
22 Q. Okay.  
23 A. **That's not knowledge I have.**  
24 Q. Bishop Fitzgerald did learn of some misconduct  
25 by you that caused him to take you out of that

1 parish, didn't he?  
2 A. **Which parish, Jeff?**  
3 Q. At St. Clement's in Hammond.  
4 A. **Oh, no.**  
5 Q. No?  
6 A. **No. I'd say no.**  
7 Q. Okay.  
8 (Discussion out of the hearing of  
9 the court reporter)  
10 Q. It was at Lourdes, then, you said? Okay. So  
11 you're --  
12 A. **I was at Lourdes at the same time I was --**  
13 Q. I see.  
14 A. **-- administrator, yes.**  
15 Q. Okay. Excuse me. So you were removed from  
16 Lourdes because of the sexual misconduct  
17 allegations?  
18 A. **No. I was never told that.**  
19 MR. BRAUN: Objection as to  
20 foundation. You can answer the question, if  
21 you know.  
22 A. **No. I don't know.**  
23 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
24 Q. Why did you understand you were removed from  
25 Rochester Lourdes High School and as

- 1 administrator at St. Clement's?
- 2 **A. Well, I -- what I was told, the bishop wanted**
- 3 **me to go there and be a chaplain at the**
- 4 **college in Albert Lea and that's what I did.**
- 5 **Q.** Did he tell you when that happened that he
- 6 didn't want you to be around kids?
- 7 **A. No.**
- 8 **Q.** The college at Albert Lea was college-age
- 9 students, wasn't it?
- 10 **A. Yes.**
- 11 **Q.** So as far as your understanding, the only
- 12 reason -- what was the reason he took you out
- 13 of the assignment and put you as chaplain at
- 14 Albert Lea?
- 15 **A. I think that he -- he needed a -- I don't know**
- 16 **what was happening to my predecessor there,**
- 17 **but he wanted someone to go in to run the**
- 18 **Newmann club and the Catholic camp and stuff**
- 19 **and -- and it was me.**
- 20 **Q.** Okay. And how long were you in that
- 21 assignment?
- 22 **A. For a year and a few months.**
- 23 **Q.** And you continued to have a sexual
- 24 relationship with at that time?
- 25 **A. Well, I -- I -- I need to identify the years.**

- 1 **Q.** Well, the records show --
- 2 **A. Yes, I'll just say yes.**
- 3 **Q.** Okay. In, it appears, in June of '67, you're
- 4 assigned to be assistant pastor at St.
- 5 Theodore's church in Albert Lea. Does that
- 6 sound about right?
- 7 **A. That's the same as that -- that's where I**
- 8 **lived during this Newmann chaplaincy.**
- 9 **Q.** So you had kind of an assignment at Newmann's,
- 10 but you also were pastor at St. Theodore's
- 11 where you lived?
- 12 **A. Associate pastor.**
- 13 **Q.** Associate pastor, got it. And look at the Doe
- 14 list and the name next to Doe 28. And I don't
- 15 want you to use the name, but I'm going to ask
- 16 you if you know that kid and knew him then
- 17 while at that parish.
- 18 **A. I don't know the name --**
- 19 **Q.** Okay.
- 20 **A. -- nor the kid.**
- 21 **Q.** Look at the Doe 30, and my question to you is,
- 22 when you look at Doe 30 and the name next to
- 23 it, do you recognize that name?
- 24 **A. I recognize -- I recognize the family name,**
- 25 **yes.**

- 1 **Q.** Okay. And did you sexually abuse a kid in
- 2 that family?
- 3 **A. No.**
- 4 **Q.** Did you sexually abuse the kid identified as
- 5 Doe 30?
- 6 **A. No.**
- 7 **Q.** It's claimed by him that it happened in a
- 8 hotel in Albert Lea relating to some scouting
- 9 event. Did you have some kids at the hotel in
- 10 Albert Lea?
- 11 **A. No. I don't remember that.**
- 12 **Q.** Did you have any involvement with Scouts?
- 13 **A. No. Never.**
- 14 **Q.** Never at all?
- 15 **A. Never.**
- 16 **Q.** And did you sexually -- other than the sexual
- 17 contacts that were ongoing with were
- 18 there kids that you engaged or attempted to
- 19 engage in sexual contact at St. Theodore's
- 20 Church in Albert Lea or while being the
- 21 chaplain at the Newmann college --
- 22 **A. No.**
- 23 **Q.** -- Newmann Center? Okay. Not that you
- 24 remember or are you certain that you didn't?
- 25 **A. I'd just say no.**

- 1 **Q.** Okay. And why do you say no to that?
- 2 **A. I don't have any -- anything else to say.**
- 3 **Q.** At -- had Tice done anything to help you
- 4 control your sexual impulses and acting out?
- 5 **A. Well, those -- you know, I've had treatments**
- 6 **and other treatments and those -- it isn't**
- 7 **like going in to have a tooth pulled or**
- 8 **something. It's -- it's sort of ongoing and,**
- 9 **you know, to understand yourself and -- and**
- 10 **your life and I don't know where -- where it**
- 11 **was leading me or if it helped, I don't know**
- 12 **that.**
- 13 **Q.** Is there anything that Tice did with you that
- 14 led you to believe that you could control your
- 15 sexual urges in a way that you hadn't been
- 16 able to before?
- 17 **A. I think there might have been progress there,**
- 18 **but I don't know.**
- 19 **Q.** You did continue to act out on your sexual
- 20 urges, though, didn't you, with kids?
- 21 **A. Yes.**
- 22 **Q.** What year was the last year you estimate you
- 23 last engaged in some sexual contact with a
- 24 youth?
- 25 **A. I haven't been alone with a youth in over 30**



1 **years --**  
 2 **Q.** Okay. Well, give me the time --  
 3 **A.** -- **at any time.**  
 4 **Q.** -- the last time it would have happened then.  
 5 **A.** **It would have been in '82 maybe.**  
 6 **Q.** You were at Risen Savior until '80 --  
 7 **A.** **Five.**  
 8 **Q.** -- five. And there's allegations you  
 9 continued to have sexual contact with youth  
 10 after that, and one in particular till '87.  
 11 Do you know that to be?  
 12 **A.** **No. I don't know that.**  
 13 **Q.** Okay.  
 14 **A.** **I wasn't there till '87 --**  
 15 **Q.** I know. But the sexual contact continued.  
 16 You continued to have some relationship with  
 17 youth after you were taken out of Risen  
 18 Savior, did you not?  
 19 **A.** **I mean, I have to think of when I -- what year**  
 20 **did I leave Risen Savior? I can't get that in**  
 21 **my mind right now.**  
 22 **Q.** Well, I think the assignment history reflects  
 23 that the last year there was --  
 24 **A.** **Oh, '85.**  
 25 **Q.** -- '85. And --

1 **A.** **I didn't have contact in '85 or after that.**  
 2 **You're saying till '87, that -- that's not**  
 3 **true.**  
 4 **Q.** Okay.  
 5 (Discussion out of the hearing of  
 6 the court reporter)  
 7 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 8 **Q.** Is it true that you did have some sexual  
 9 contact with youth through 1985, your last  
 10 assignment at Risen Savior?  
 11 **A.** **No. It stopped before that.**  
 12 **Q.** What made it stop?  
 13 **A.** **Well, I had my 25th, that scrapbook, and at**  
 14 **the -- on my 25th anniversary, the parish gave**  
 15 **me a trip to the Holy Land, which I took that**  
 16 **trip with several other priests and some**  
 17 **bishops for three weeks. And at that time I**  
 18 **said that I can't ever do this anymore, and**  
 19 **that was kind of a -- my decision with the**  
 20 **input and the pain. And then that was a --**  
 21 **intensified or further confirmed a year later**  
 22 **when Gregory Riedel exposed me in Ash**  
 23 **Wednesday of 1984. And at that time, then, I**  
 24 **said, not only can I not do this, I don't even**  
 25 **dare be in contact with a youth or I'll be**

1 **accused. So that's been all my years in -- in**  
 2 **Wisconsin, there was never a youth in my**  
 3 **apartment or my car at any time.**  
 4 **Q.** When we had a break and you had brought in a  
 5 number of exhibits responsive to the subpoena,  
 6 copies of those have been made. We might as  
 7 well mark them and why don't we show you some  
 8 of those?  
 9 MR. GEHAN: You're not going to do  
 10 these individually?  
 11 MR. FINNEGAN: Not each page, just  
 12 the big one. I think the three groups you  
 13 grouped them in.  
 14 THE WITNESS: You need that --  
 15 MR. GEHAN: I have a set.  
 16 MR. ANDERSON: Mark, can I look at  
 17 your copy for a minute and you look at his so  
 18 I can -- oh, thank you. Here, I got it.  
 19 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 20 **Q.** One of the first exhibits we marked, we'll put  
 21 before you, is 103, which is some photographs.  
 22 And there are actually three in number on 103.  
 23 Can you identify what those are, Mr. Adamson?  
 24 **A.** **Yeah, the -- the upper left corner would be**  
 25 **celebrating Mass. I -- I presume that was a**

1 **live picture.**  
 2 **Q.** Okay. And where was that at?  
 3 **A.** **I think Apple Valley.**  
 4 **Q.** Risen Savior?  
 5 **A.** **Yes.**  
 6 **Q.** Okay. And the upper right, there's a  
 7 celebration of --  
 8 **A.** **An outdoor 25th wedding anniversary of my**  
 9 **sister and brother-in-law.**  
 10 MR. GEHAN: Let him finish his  
 11 question, please.  
 12 THE WITNESS: Sorry.  
 13 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 14 **Q.** And the lower right is a picture of you about  
 15 that same time as a priest?  
 16 **A.** **Yes.**  
 17 **Q.** Okay. And do you know by whom it was taken?  
 18 **A.** **I suspect it was for a school photo thing, but**  
 19 **I don't know.**  
 20 **Q.** All right. And that was the Risen Savior  
 21 school? Was it appended to the parish?  
 22 **A.** **I think it was previous to that.**  
 23 **Q.** Okay. And then the next exhibit we've marked  
 24 that you produced is really two pages that is  
 25 six separate photographs, and what are these

1 depicting?

2 **A. These are depict -- depicting me working with**

3 **the residents at the nursing home in Eau**

4 **Claire, which I did for 22 years.**

5 **Q.** And so they were taken while you were working

6 there sometime --

7 **A. Yeah, regularly, they take pictures every --**

8 **every week, every day.**

9 **Q.** Okay. And there you did ministry, but not as

10 a Catholic priest?

11 **A. I was never identified as a Catholic priest**

12 **there.**

13 **Q.** Okay. So did they know you're a Catholic

14 priest?

15 **A. No.**

16 **Q.** Did anybody call you Father Tom?

17 **A. No.**

18 **Q.** And then the next exhibit is this thicker one

19 and it's marked Exhibit 105. And this would

20 be the photo album that you brought in that we

21 asked you to --

22 MR. GEHAN: Counsel, let me

23 interrupt you. That's mislabeled.

24 MR. ANDERSON: Okay. Okay. Just a

25 moment.

1 BY MR. ANDERSON:

2 **Q.** So I mismarked it, it's Exhibit 106, it's

3 photographs that you brought in responsive to

4 the subpoena that were contained in the photo

5 album you have before you today?

6 MR. FINNEGAN: That's 105 right

7 there.

8 THE WITNESS: Are they your copies?

9 MR. GEHAN: I don't know whose

10 copies these are.

11 MR. FINNEGAN: Those are exhibits.

12 MR. GEHAN: Exhibits, okay.

13 MR. FINNEGAN: So we need to stop

14 and have the one marked as an exhibit.

15 MR. ANDERSON: 105.

16 **A. (Indicating) okay.**

17 BY MR. ANDERSON:

18 **Q.** Okay. So we just mismarked some exhibits

19 here, so 105 is -- it looks like an older

20 photo, two pages, which depicts what?

21 **A. That's my first wedding, my sister Mary's**

22 **wedding.**

23 **Q.** First wedding you ever performed as a priest?

24 **A. Yes.**

25 **Q.** And then exhibit -- and the second page of it

1 is what?

2 **A. Sister Helen, approximately ten years later.**

3 **Q.** And then showing you Exhibit 106, are these

4 the photocopies, colored copies of the photo

5 album that you brought in responsive to the

6 subpoena?

7 **A. Yes.**

8 **Q.** And is there anything in here that is a

9 photographic demonstration of your trip to the

10 Holy Land that you referred to?

11 **A. That would have happened after this**

12 **celebration. This was a 25th anniversary**

13 **celebration.**

14 **Q.** Okay. What would be the year of this

15 celebration?

16 **A. 1983.**

17 MR. GEHAN: Let him finish his

18 question.

19 BY MR. ANDERSON:

20 **Q.** And at the time of this celebration and some

21 of which is depicted in these photos and kept

22 by you, as far as you know, had anybody,

23 either in these photographs or in that parish

24 ever been informed by any official of the

25 Diocese of Winona or the Archdiocese of

1 Minneapolis and St. Paul that they knew that

2 you had had a history of having molested

3 children?

4 MR. BRAUN: Objection, foundation,

5 speculation. You can answer if you know.

6 **A. Not that I know of.**

7 **BY MR. ANDERSON:**

8 **Q.** At the celebration, around the time of this

9 celebration, are there any kids depicted in

10 any of these photos who you engaged in sexual

11 contact or abuse?

12 **A. No. Not --**

13 **Q.** Did you sexually abuse Jim Keenan?

14 **A. No.**

15 **Q.** Did you know Jim Keenan?

16 **A. I know the family. I don't recall Jim, we've**

17 **been through this before, but I've always said**

18 **I -- I did not try to abuse Jim Keenan.**

19 **Q.** And you're certain of that?

20 **A. Yes.**

21 **Q.** Did you attempt to sexually abuse or engage

22 Jim Keenan in sexual contact?

23 **A. No.**

24 **Q.** Did you have a time with him alone?

25 **A. No. I don't recall that.**

- 1 Q. You're depicted in this confirmation picture.  
 2 Did you confirm him?  
 3 A. **Well -- no. I did not confirm him.**  
 4 Q. Did you celebrate confirmation with him and  
 5 his family?  
 6 A. **Possibly. That would have been -- maybe there**  
 7 **were a hundred confirmations, you know, and**  
 8 **you would gather for pictures or whatever with**  
 9 **many families, but it wasn't singled out as --**  
 10 **as me and Keenan or whatever.**  
 11 Q. Do you remember spending time with him and his  
 12 family in the home, the Keenan family home?  
 13 A. **If I was there, it was once and it was for**  
 14 **like a confirmation or graduation or**  
 15 **something, but as some of the complaints say,**  
 16 **I was never a regular dinner guest at their**  
 17 **home, no.**  
 18 Q. Did you take him golfing?  
 19 A. **I don't remember golfing with him.**  
 20 Q. Do you deny that you did take kids golfing at  
 21 that time?  
 22 A. **Well, there -- there may have been that, but I**  
 23 **-- in Apple Valley, I -- I don't know that,**  
 24 **no.**  
 25 Q. Did you take him to play racquetball?

- 1 A. **No. I don't remember that.**  
 2 Q. Was it your practice to take kids to play  
 3 racquetball while at Risen Savior?  
 4 A. **No. Not there, no.**  
 5 Q. It had been your practice before that?  
 6 A. **Well, I played racquetball with a lotta**  
 7 **people.**  
 8 Q. Didn't you take some kids to the Burnsville  
 9 racquetball club?  
 10 A. **Well, one of these other Does went there with**  
 11 **me that was -- you know, in fact --**  
 12 Q. Which Doe? Look at the list, don't give me  
 13 the name, just tell me the number of the Doe.  
 14 A. **(Examining documents) Doe 5 probably was there**  
 15 **with me.**  
 16 Q. Any of these other Does that you took to the  
 17 Burnsville racquet club?  
 18 A. **Doe 4 was from that community, but I don't**  
 19 **remember him being at the racquet club.**  
 20 Q. Did you sexually abuse Doe 5?  
 21 A. **No.**  
 22 Q. Did you sexually abuse Doe 4?  
 23 A. **No.**  
 24 Q. Did you sexually abuse Doe 3?  
 25 A. **I don't know that name.**

- 1 Q. How many kids do you think you engaged or  
 2 attempted to engage in sexual contact while  
 3 you were assigned to Risen Savior in Apple  
 4 Valley?  
 5 A. **I didn't abuse any kids there.**  
 6 Q. You said the last time you would have was when  
 7 you went to the Holy Land. When did you go to  
 8 the Holy Land?  
 9 A. **In 1983.**  
 10 MR. GEHAN: Counsel, you're  
 11 misstating what he said. He said that after  
 12 he went to the Holy Land, he never again was  
 13 alone with a child.  
 14 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 15 Q. Is that what you said?  
 16 A. **Yes.**  
 17 Q. Okay. And so when was the last time you  
 18 engaged in any sexual contact with any kid  
 19 while you were a priest and at Risen Savior?  
 20 A. **Probably '81 or '82. There were a couple of**  
 21 **contacts with Tom Mrozka when he or his**  
 22 **parents came there, but our relationship was**  
 23 **pretty much over with by the time I left that**  
 24 **parish.**  
 25 Q. He was somebody you had developed a

- 1 relationship with as a priest and his family  
 2 when you had been at your previous parish,  
 3 Immaculate Conception, correct?  
 4 A. **Yes.**  
 5 Q. And that bled over to you -- to your pastorate  
 6 at Risen Savior?  
 7 A. **Yes.**  
 8 Q. And then do you deny engaging or having  
 9 engaged in any other kids while a priest at  
 10 Risen Savior, other than Mrozka?  
 11 A. **I didn't engage others.**  
 12 Q. And until you went to the Holy Land, had it  
 13 been your practice to spend time with kids in  
 14 recreation, hearing confessions and doing  
 15 pastoral work?  
 16 A. **Please repeat that.**  
 17 Q. Before you went to the Holy Land, had it been  
 18 your practice to spend time with kids alone,  
 19 either for sacramental work or recreation?  
 20 A. **I didn't spend much time with kids at any time**  
 21 **in Apple Valley, if I'm getting to --**  
 22 Q. When you say "much time," how much time did  
 23 you spend with kids in Apple Valley?  
 24 A. **Well, these two people that we've talked**  
 25 **about, they're mothers, each of them, and Doe**

1 **4 turned out to be a -- we'd been through that**  
 2 **years ago, a confidential scary-type of**  
 3 **relationship with he and his mother and**  
 4 **friends. And with -- and the boy's -- Doe 5's**  
 5 **mother, specifically asked me to help**  
 6 **him out. And at the time that, you know, he**  
 7 **was going with me, I don't know what we did,**  
 8 **he -- he probably went swimming or to the**  
 9 **racquet club. And when all -- all the**  
 10 **publicity came out, and then my recall is that**  
 11 **he -- he said I touched him on the thigh, but,**  
 12 **you know, I've always denied that, that I was**  
 13 **trying to have sex with him.**  
 14 **Q.** At the time that you were alleged to have  
 15 attempted to have sex with Doe 5, were you  
 16 having sex with Tom Mrozka?  
 17 **A. Well, the contacts with Tom continued a short**  
 18 **time after I went to Apple Valley.**  
 19 **Q.** And you said something about a scary situation  
 20 involving Doe 4. Had you had sexual contact  
 21 with Doe 4?  
 22 **A. No.**  
 23 (Discussion out of the hearing of  
 24 the court reporter)  
 25 BY MR. ANDERSON:

1 **Q.** Other than what you told us about the  
 2 conversations that Bishop Fitzgerald had with  
 3 you about the reports that he got, any other  
 4 conversations with Fitzgerald about your  
 5 history and/or reports of you having abused  
 6 kids?  
 7 **A. No.**  
 8 **Q.** So the records demonstrate --  
 9 (Discussion out of the hearing of  
 10 the court reporter)  
 11 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 12 **Q.** How many conversations did you actually have  
 13 with Fitzgerald where the topic was discussed  
 14 or touched on?  
 15 **A. Once.**  
 16 **Q.** And who did you tell about that conversation?  
 17 **A. Probably no one.**  
 18 **Q.** And did Bishop Fitzgerald lead you to believe  
 19 that it was also his intent to tell no one?  
 20 **A. Don't know.**  
 21 **Q.** To your knowledge, did he ever tell anyone?  
 22 **A. Don't know.**  
 23 **Q.** At least it was never reported to you that he  
 24 did, correct?  
 25 **A. Correct.**

1 **Q.** In 1969 -- by the way, do you know if Bishop  
 2 Fitzgerald took any notes or made any  
 3 recording of what was said by you or him or  
 4 reports made concerning you?  
 5 **A. I doubt it.**  
 6 **Q.** He was not much of a record keeper, was he?  
 7 **A. No, he wasn't.**  
 8 **Q.** He was pretty casual in terms of the way he  
 9 made assignments and dealt with the priests,  
 10 is that fair to say?  
 11 **A. Yes.**  
 12 **Q.** He kind of treated priests like family, didn't  
 13 he?  
 14 **A. I think that's fair.**  
 15 **Q.** In 1969, Bishop Watters was appointed by the  
 16 Holy See to succeed Bishop Fitzgerald and you  
 17 came to know him, correct?  
 18 **A. Yes.**  
 19 **Q.** And when he came on in 1969, when is the first  
 20 time you learned that he had any information  
 21 about you having been reported to have  
 22 sexually abused?  
 23 **A. I'm not sure, but I would guess 1974.**  
 24 **Q.** In 1970, you are at -- the administrator of  
 25 St. Lawrence O'Toole Church in Fountain,

1 Minnesota, and St. Kilian's Church in Wykoff  
 2 and you'd been assigned there in 1968 by  
 3 Bishop Fitzgerald. Do you know why you'd been  
 4 assigned to that parish and removed from the  
 5 prior?  
 6 **A. Well, it was somewhat of a promotion, it was**  
 7 **my first pastorate and, you know, I was the**  
 8 **youngest man in the diocese that was doing**  
 9 **that sort of thing.**  
 10 **Q.** Look at the Doe list and you'll see Doe 15  
 11 identified --  
 12 MR. LEANN: I'm sorry, excuse me,  
 13 off the video record at 2:30 p.m. to change  
 14 media.  
 15 (Recess taken)  
 16 MR. LEANN: Back on the video record  
 17 at 2:42 p.m.  
 18 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 19 **Q.** Mr. Adamson, before Bishop Watters is  
 20 appointed by the Holy See to succeed Bishop  
 21 Fitzgerald in 1969, the records reflect, as I  
 22 suggested, that you were administrator at St.  
 23 Lawrence O'Toole Church in Fountain and also  
 24 assigned to St. Kilian's Church in Wykoff by  
 25 Bishop Fitzgerald, correct?

- 1 **A. Yes.**
- 2 **Q.** And while there and at that assignment, did
- 3 you engage in sexual contact with any of the
- 4 kids under you there?
- 5 **A. No. I see one name on there that's from there**
- 6 **and I --**
- 7 **Q.** Let's look at it. Is that --
- 8 (Discussion out of the hearing of
- 9 the court reporter)
- 10 BY MR. ANDERSON:
- 11 **Q.** Look at -- what Doe number do you recognize as
- 12 being from there?
- 13 **A. Thirty-three.**
- 14 **Q.** And did you sexually abuse or attempt to
- 15 sexually engage in contact Doe 33?
- 16 **A. I don't think there was abuse. There might**
- 17 **have been an attempt, that's all I remember.**
- 18 **I remember him, though.**
- 19 **Q.** Okay. And where did you attempt to abuse him?
- 20 **A. I think in my car.**
- 21 **Q.** And how did you know him?
- 22 **A. He -- they were parishioners there.**
- 23 **Q.** Okay. And did you continue -- do you remember
- 24 bringing him to a Holiday Inn?
- 25 **A. They went to a Gopher game or something with**

- 1 **me once, yes.**
- 2 **Q.** And stayed at the Holiday?
- 3 **A. I think so, yes.**
- 4 **Q.** And did you attempt to touch his genitals?
- 5 **A. I don't know that. I don't remember that.**
- 6 **Q.** You do remember attempting to do something to
- 7 him sexually, but --
- 8 **A. I'd say yes.**
- 9 **Q.** On one or more than one occasion?
- 10 **A. I don't know.**
- 11 **Q.** And then look at Doe 15. He is somebody that
- 12 you had known from before and that family from
- 13 before. My question to you is, while assigned
- 14 to St. Fountain -- to Fountain, Minnesota, St.
- 15 Lawrence and St. Kilian's, did you continue to
- 16 engage in some relationship with this
- 17 particular Doe?
- 18 **A. No. I don't remember that.**
- 19 **Q.** Okay. Did you bring him to the family farm --
- 20 **A. No --**
- 21 **Q.** -- (Inaudible)?
- 22 **A. No.**
- 23 **Q.** Okay.
- 24 **A. He was -- if he was there, either his parents**
- 25 **brought him or his brother brought him, but I**

- 1 **never brought him there.**
- 2 **Q.** Okay. But your memory is that he may have
- 3 been there, but you don't remember him being
- 4 there with you, is that what you're saying?
- 5 **A. Yes.**
- 6 **Q.** After Bishop Watters was installed, you
- 7 continued in that pastorate until, it looks
- 8 like in the records, June 15th of 1971 and you
- 9 were assigned to be pastor at St. Francis
- 10 Church in Rochester and superintendent of the
- 11 St. Francis parish school, is that correct?
- 12 **A. Yes.**
- 13 **Q.** And do you know why Watters assigned you and
- 14 moved you from your former assignment to that?
- 15 **A. Well, it was a big promotion.**
- 16 **Q.** And look at Doe number 23 and please see the
- 17 name next to it.
- 18 **A. Yes.**
- 19 **Q.** Did you abuse or attempt to sexually abuse Doe
- 20 23?
- 21 **A. I don't recognize the name even, no.**
- 22 **Q.** Look at Doe 9. And did you abuse or attempt
- 23 to sexually abuse him in a number of
- 24 locations, including the car, hotel, YMCA
- 25 and/or sauna?

- 1 **A. Yes.**
- 2 **Q.** How many times do you think you did?
- 3 **A. Several.**
- 4 **Q.** Several dozen?
- 5 **A. No.**
- 6 **Q.** Do you have an estimate?
- 7 **A. No.**
- 8 **Q.** Other -- how many other kids besides -- how
- 9 many kids at the --
- 10 (Discussion out of the hearing of
- 11 the court reporter)
- 12 BY MR. ANDERSON:
- 13 **Q.** -- parish in St. Lawrence and St. Kilian did
- 14 you either engage or attempt to engage in
- 15 sexual contact?
- 16 **A. None. I don't know any others.**
- 17 **Q.** How many kids at your assignment at St.
- 18 Francis Church and school did you engage or
- 19 attempt to engage?
- 20 **A. Well, the school, Doe 9 was a school member**
- 21 **there, he was not a parishioner. Nor was his**
- 22 **brother, Doe 7.**
- 23 **Q.** But you did engage both of them in contact --
- 24 **A. Yes.**
- 25 **Q.** -- sexual abuse? Okay. Any other Does at

1 that assignment -- while in that assignment  
 2 that you engaged in sexual abuse?  
 3 **A. No.**  
 4 **Q.** Look at Doe 7 and 8 and Doe 7, did you engage  
 5 him?  
 6 **A. Yes.**  
 7 **Q.** And 8?  
 8 **A. No.**  
 9 **Q.** Do you remember being at the aunt's house,  
 10 either yours or his, with Doe 8?  
 11 **A. At whose house, please?**  
 12 **Q.** Aunt  
 13 **A. Yes.**  
 14 **Q.** Okay. Did you do anything to him there?  
 15 **A. Which Doe are you talking about?**  
 16 **Q.** Doe 8.  
 17 **A. Yes.**  
 18 **Q.** What did you do to him?  
 19 **A. Probably masturbated him.**  
 20 **Q.** At some point in time, did you admit to Father  
 21 Jansen that you had had sexual contact with a  
 22 boy beyond what you told us earlier in '73?  
 23 **A. No. I don't remember anything.**  
 24 **Q.** How did -- look at Doe 30 -- excuse me, Doe  
 25 35.

1 (Discussion out of the hearing of  
 2 the court reporter)  
 3 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 4 **Q.** Look at Doe 29 and Doe 23. Mr. Finnegan seems  
 5 to think I missed either or both of them. My  
 6 question is, do you see Doe 23?  
 7 **A. I see the name.**  
 8 **Q.** And do you recognize the name?  
 9 **A. No.**  
 10 **Q.** Okay. Do you see Doe 29?  
 11 **A. Yes.**  
 12 **Q.** Do you recognize the name?  
 13 **A. No.**  
 14 **Q.** Okay. Look at Doe 35. And at the hospital,  
 15 Methodist Hospital in Rochester, did you have  
 16 some contact with this kid relating to a  
 17 hospitalization or the death of a family  
 18 member?  
 19 **A. Don't recognize the name.**  
 20 **Q.** Okay. Look at the Doe 31. Did you -- do you  
 21 recognize that name?  
 22 **A. I think that's a St. Paul name.**  
 23 **Q.** Okay. And did you abuse that kid?  
 24 **A. Yes.**  
 25 **Q.** How many times?

1 **A. Several.**  
 2 **Q.** And what's your best estimate?  
 3 **A. Well, I knew him for several years, if it's**  
 4 **the person I'm thinking it is.**  
 5 **Q.** And where did those abuses happen?  
 6 **A. We did a lotta sports together, basketball,**  
 7 **racquetball, golf.**  
 8 **Q.** And was there oral copulation with him?  
 9 **A. Oral sex?**  
 10 **Q.** Yes.  
 11 **A. Not that I remember, no.**  
 12 **Q.** How many kids would you estimate there was  
 13 oral sex with?  
 14 **A. Several.**  
 15 **Q.** Was there ever attempted anal?  
 16 **A. No.**  
 17 **Q.** There was masturbation with -- more than there  
 18 was oral, correct?  
 19 **A. Yes.**  
 20 **Q.** And it usually began with you spending time  
 21 with them alone and then touching their  
 22 genitals and then advancing the sexual  
 23 contact?  
 24 **A. Yes.**  
 25 **Q.** Before -- at some point in time, did Bishop

1 Watters send you back to see Dr. Tice?  
 2 **A. I don't think so.**  
 3 **Q.** Did Bishop Watters, before you were moved to  
 4 the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis,  
 5 did Bishop Watters have you see Father Ken  
 6 Pierre in the Twin Cities?  
 7 **A. I saw Father Pierre. I don't know who asked**  
 8 **me to.**  
 9 **Q.** When did you begin seeing him and for what  
 10 reason?  
 11 **A. I think in the '70s. I'm saying '73 maybe.**  
 12 **Q.** And for what reason were you sent to him?  
 13 **A. I don't know if it was because of a -- rumors**  
 14 **or incidents and I don't know who asked that I**  
 15 **see him.**  
 16 **Q.** And who paid for that therapy?  
 17 **A. The diocese.**  
 18 **Q.** Of Winona or Archdiocese of St. Paul?  
 19 **A. Winona.**  
 20 **Q.** He was at the Consultation Services Center in  
 21 the Twin Cities, correct?  
 22 **A. He was a registered psychologist.**  
 23 **Q.** At some point in time, you also were sent to  
 24 the University of Minnesota, correct?  
 25 **A. Simultaneously.**

- 1 Q. So you saw Ken Pierre while you were at the U  
2 of M?
- 3 A. **I think that continued then, yes.**
- 4 Q. Tell us how that came to be at the U of M and  
5 seeing Ken Pierre at the same time, and which  
6 you started -- which you did first, going to  
7 the U --
- 8 A. **I think I was seeing Pierre before I went to  
9 the U, before I went to the archdiocese. And  
10 the bishop had need for more professional help  
11 in counseling, I think that was one thing on  
12 his mind, and I was having the hassle with the  
13 family, and so those could have been. I  
14 went back to -- I went to the archdiocese, met  
15 with Bishop (sic) Roach and -- and then I did  
16 do studies and -- and got an advanced degree.**
- 17 Q. After the family had complained to  
18 Bishop Watters about what you had done, you  
19 were moved to the Archdiocese of St. Paul and  
20 Minneapolis, correct?
- 21 MR. BRAUN: Objection as to form.  
22 Counsel, what do you mean by "moved"?  
23 BY MR. ANDERSON:
- 24 Q. Transferred, moved, reassigned. Do you  
25 understand the question?

- 1 A. **Yes.**
- 2 Q. Okay. And is that correct, you were moved --
- 3 A. **Yes.**
- 4 Q. And you say that you met with Archbishop Roach  
5 then. How long after the confronted  
6 Bishop Watters over your conduct did you meet  
7 with Archbishop Roach?
- 8 A. **I guess within two, three weeks.**
- 9 Q. And where was that meeting?
- 10 A. **In his office.**
- 11 Q. And who was there?
- 12 A. **The archbishop.**
- 13 Q. You and he?
- 14 A. **Yes.**
- 15 Q. And it was to discuss your history and the  
16 problems that had arisen that caused you to be  
17 taken out of the Diocese of Winona and now  
18 getting help in the Archdiocese of St. Paul  
19 and Minneapolis?
- 20 A. **No. There was no discussion of that.**
- 21 Q. What was there discussion of?
- 22 A. **The discussion was, I was going up there, I  
23 was going to school, I needed a place to live  
24 and to function as a priest.**
- 25 Q. Did he ask you why it was you're now -- tell

- 1 me the circumstances, then, of your removal  
2 from the Diocese of Winona.
- 3 A. **Well, I think Bishop Watters would have made  
4 that contact with Archbishop Roach and said I  
5 was coming up, I was looking for a place to  
6 live and I was gonna be doing graduate study.**
- 7 Q. What did you understand about what Bishop  
8 Watters told Archbishop Roach for the reason  
9 for your departure?
- 10 A. **I have no idea.**
- 11 Q. And did Archbishop Roach ask you?
- 12 A. **No.**
- 13 Q. Did you assume that he did know that something  
14 had happened and that --
- 15 A. **I don't know that.**
- 16 MR. WIESER: Objection, foundation,  
17 calls for speculation.
- 18 A. **Yeah.**
- 19 **BY MR. ANDERSON:**
- 20 Q. And was it made known to Archbishop Roach,  
21 then, that you'd be going to the U of M and  
22 you'd continue to see Pierre?
- 23 MR. WIESER: Objection to the form,  
24 calls for -- or lack of foundation.  
25 BY MR. ANDERSON:

- 1 Q. You can answer.
- 2 A. **One question at a time, please.**
- 3 Q. Was it made known to Archbishop Roach that you  
4 would continue to see Pierre?
- 5 MR. WIESER: Same objection.
- 6 A. **I don't know that.**
- 7 **BY MR. ANDERSON:**
- 8 Q. Was it made known to Archbishop Roach that you  
9 would be attending the U of M?
- 10 MR. WIESER: Object to the form,  
11 foundation.
- 12 A. **Yes.**
- 13 **BY MR. ANDERSON:**
- 14 Q. And what did Archbishop Roach tell you about  
15 your responsibilities as a priest and what  
16 you'd be allowed to do in the archdiocese?
- 17 A. **Nothing, that I remember.**
- 18 Q. Okay. And so after you were moved out of the  
19 Diocese of Winona and you met with Archbishop  
20 Roach, did you ultimately get assigned to a  
21 pastorate in the Archdiocese of St. Paul and  
22 Minneapolis?
- 23 A. **Eventually.**
- 24 Q. And that was St. Leo's?
- 25 A. **No. I lived at St. Leo's, but I was not**

1 **pastor there.**  
 2 **Q.** Okay. Where were you assigned?  
 3 **A.** **St. Leo's in Highland Park.**  
 4 **Q.** And you lived at St. Leo's. Were you assigned  
 5 to a pastorate there?  
 6 **A.** **No.**  
 7 **Q.** Did you do supply work there?  
 8 **A.** **Repeat.**  
 9 **Q.** Did you do supply work there, fill in?  
 10 **A.** **Yes, I lived there.**  
 11 **Q.** Okay. And did you also work as a pastor or --  
 12 **A.** **Yes.**  
 13 **Q.** Okay. And who also lived there with you?  
 14 **A.** **Father Leo Dolan.**  
 15 **Q.** Was there discussion with Leo Dolan about the  
 16 reason for your departure from Winona?  
 17 **A.** **Not that I know of.**  
 18 **Q.** Were you seeing Ken Pierre and Dr. Tice at the  
 19 same time?  
 20 **A.** **Never.**  
 21 **Q.** Okay. So you saw Ken Pierre how many times  
 22 after you began to live at St. Leo's?  
 23 **A.** **I don't know.**  
 24 **Q.** And --  
 25 (Discussion out of the hearing of

1 the court reporter)  
 2 **MR. GEHAN:** Counsel, just for my  
 3 assistance, what year are we talking about now  
 4 when this transfer from St. Paul to -- or from  
 5 Winona to St. Paul occurred?  
 6 **BY MR. ANDERSON:**  
 7 **Q.** Why don't you tell us? What year were you  
 8 transferred from the Diocese of Winona to be  
 9 in the Archdiocese of St. Paul and  
 10 Minneapolis?  
 11 **A.** **January 1975.**  
 12 **Q.** And it appears that there was something that  
 13 -- it was like there's a record of that being  
 14 December 31st, '74. Does that sound correct?  
 15 **A.** **Okay.**  
 16 **Q.** That's an unusual time of year for a priest to  
 17 be reassigned, is it not?  
 18 **A.** **Not really.**  
 19 **Q.** Were you moved to the Archdiocese of St. Paul  
 20 and Minneapolis because it had become known to  
 21 the bishop you had sexually abused?  
 22 **A.** **I don't know that.**  
 23 **MR. BRAUN:** Objection, foundation,  
 24 speculation.  
 25 **BY MR. ANDERSON:**

1 **Q.** What did Bishop Watters tell you about the  
 2 reasons for your departure from the Diocese of  
 3 Winona?  
 4 **A.** **I think we stated that. I was gonna go to**  
 5 **school and there was a hassle at that local**  
 6 **parish, threat -- threats I should say.**  
 7 **Q.** And there were promises made to the  
 8 family by the bishop, weren't there?  
 9 **A.** **I don't know that.**  
 10 **MR. BRAUN:** Objection, speculation,  
 11 foundation.  
 12 **BY MR. ANDERSON:**  
 13 **Q.** What were the threats that were made?  
 14 **A.** **was threatening me.**  
 15 **Q.** He was threatening to go to the police, wasn't  
 16 he?  
 17 **A.** **I don't know that.**  
 18 **Q.** He was threatening to go public, wasn't he?  
 19 **A.** **Yes.**  
 20 **Q.** And he was threatening to tell the parish that  
 21 you had abused his brother, wasn't he?  
 22 **A.** **Yes.**  
 23 **Q.** And that's why Archbishop -- that's why Bishop  
 24 Watters moved you to the Archdiocese of St.  
 25 Paul and Minneapolis?

1 **MR. BRAUN:** Objection, foundation,  
 2 speculation.  
 3 **BY MR. ANDERSON:**  
 4 **Q.** Isn't it?  
 5 **A.** **I don't know that.**  
 6 **Q.** Okay. Well, all these things happened, the  
 7 transfer was right after the threats, wasn't  
 8 it?  
 9 **A.** **Yes.**  
 10 **Q.** And the threats were made right before  
 11 Christmas, weren't they?  
 12 **A.** **Yes.**  
 13 **Q.** And the transfer was made the next week,  
 14 wasn't it?  
 15 **A.** **Yes.**  
 16 (Discussion out of the hearing of  
 17 the court reporter)  
 18 **BY MR. ANDERSON:**  
 19 **Q.** So what conversation did you have at that time  
 20 or about Bishop Watters and what history he  
 21 knew or the first time that he -- let me  
 22 rephrase that.  
 23 Tell me about the conversation you  
 24 had with Bishop Watters about allegations of  
 25 sexual abuse against you and action he was



- 1 gonna take.
- 2 **A. I have no memory of that.**
- 3 **Q.** Did he ever discuss that with you at all?
- 4 **A. No. I don't think so.**
- 5 **Q.** How did you learn that or his
- 6 family, were making threats to expose you to
- 7 the parish or report it to the police?
- 8 **A. I'm not sure. I don't think he confronted me**
- 9 **directly, but maybe the other priests or**
- 10 **faculty members, I don't know.**
- 11 **Q.** To your knowledge, did Bishop Watters -- what
- 12 reasons did Bishop Watters give to the parish
- 13 that you had been assigned to for your
- 14 departure from it?
- 15 **A. I don't know.**
- 16 MR. BRAUN: Objection, foundation,
- 17 speculation.
- 18 **A. I don't know. If any.**
- 19 BY MR. ANDERSON:
- 20 **Q.** Didn't any parishioners ever call you up and
- 21 say, "Father Tom, what happened? Where are
- 22 you? Why did you leave our parish" --
- 23 **A. No.**
- 24 **Q.** -- "so abruptly right after Christmas?"
- 25 **A. No calls.**

- 1 **Q.** Were you required by Archbishop Roach when in
- 2 the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis in
- 3 any way to avoid contact with youth?
- 4 MR. WIESER: Objection, foundation.
- 5 Time frame, counsel?
- 6 **A. Don't know that.**
- 7 BY MR. ANDERSON:
- 8 **Q.** After you became assigned in the Archdiocese
- 9 of St. Paul and Minneapolis, did you desire to
- 10 go back to Winona?
- 11 **A. Yes.**
- 12 **Q.** And did you make repeated requests to Bishop
- 13 Watters to go back?
- 14 **A. Yes.**
- 15 **Q.** And did he repeatedly deny those requests?
- 16 **A. Yes.**
- 17 **Q.** And what was the reason he gave for not
- 18 letting you back in?
- 19 **A. Not time.**
- 20 **Q.** He was concerned about the publicity, wasn't
- 21 he?
- 22 **A. Don't know.**
- 23 MR. BRAUN: Objection, speculation,
- 24 foundation.
- 25 BY MR. ANDERSON:

- 1 **Q.** He communicated that to you, didn't he?
- 2 **A. No. I don't know that.**
- 3 **Q.** Father Pierre was your therapist and he was
- 4 advocating your return to the Diocese of
- 5 Winona, wasn't he?
- 6 **A. I think yes.**
- 7 **Q.** And you gave permission for him to communicate
- 8 with Bishop Watters your therapy, your status
- 9 and your desire to get back there, right?
- 10 **A. I don't know that.**
- 11 **Q.** Were you aware that he sent a letter to the
- 12 bishop?
- 13 **A. I don't know that. I don't know.**
- 14 **Q.** Are you aware that on April 17th, 1975, Ken
- 15 Pierre wrote to Bishop Watters and recommended
- 16 that you return to the Diocese of Winona on
- 17 the condition that you continue outpatient
- 18 therapy?
- 19 **A. I don't know that.**
- 20 **Q.** Were you at that time seeking to get back to
- 21 Winona?
- 22 **A. Most likely.**
- 23 **Q.** And communicating that to Pierre?
- 24 **A. Yes.**
- 25 **Q.** And were you aware that Bishop Watters wrote

- 1 back to Father Pierre, refusing to recall you
- 2 on April 19th, stating that, "I must add that
- 3 I am convinced that he doesn't even begin to
- 4 appreciate the number of people in at least
- 5 five different communities across the entire
- 6 diocese who have finally pieced together
- 7 incidents occurring over a 15-year span," are
- 8 you aware of that?
- 9 **A. I've seen that letter before, but I never**
- 10 **understood it. And he explained that to your**
- 11 **office somewhere along the line.**
- 12 **Q.** How many different communities had you abused
- 13 kids in while a priest of the Diocese of
- 14 Winona?
- 15 **A. I don't know.**
- 16 **Q.** How many years had you been abusing kids in
- 17 the Diocese of Winona when you were moved to
- 18 the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis?
- 19 **A. I don't know. I'd have to study that out.**
- 20 **Q.** In mid-1975, did you admit to Bishop Watters
- 21 that you had sexually abused a boy in Adrian?
- 22 **A. I don't recall that.**
- 23 **Q.** Were you aware that the priest personnel board
- 24 in Winona was taking up the question of your
- 25 return to the Diocese of Winona?

- 1 **A. I knew that.**  
 2 **Q.** And were you aware that they were recommending  
 3 against your return?  
 4 **A. Yes.**  
 5 **Q.** And were you told why it was that they were  
 6 recommending against your return?  
 7 **A. No.**  
 8 **Q.** Did you wonder?  
 9 **A. Yes.**  
 10 **Q.** Did you ask?  
 11 **A. No.**  
 12 **Q.** Why not?  
 13 **A. They were calling the shots. Not me. That**  
 14 **was --**  
 15 **Q.** You knew it was because you had sexually  
 16 abused and it was too hot to go back to the  
 17 Diocese of Winona, correct?  
 18 **A. I don't know that.**  
 19 **Q.** In January 13th, there's some indication that  
 20 treatment with Ken Pierre was terminated. Was  
 21 that done by you or him?  
 22 **MR. WIESER:** What year, counsel?  
 23 **MR. ANDERSON:** January 13th, 1976.  
 24 **MR. WIESER:** Thank you.  
 25 **A. Well, that was discussed previously, but if he**

- 1 **was expecting me to continue with him, or to**  
 2 **not continue with him, I never knew that. I**  
 3 **didn't -- if I was expected to continue with**  
 4 **him, I never knew that I was not to continue,**  
 5 **so I didn't drop him or drop therapy. I would**  
 6 **not have done that.**  
 7 **BY MR. ANDERSON:**  
 8 **Q.** So it was not communicated to you, at least by  
 9 Archbishop Roach or officials of the  
 10 archdiocese or Ken Pierre, your therapist,  
 11 that he was of the view that you needed  
 12 continued psychotherapy, is that your  
 13 testimony?  
 14 **MR. WIESER:** Objection to the form,  
 15 compound question.  
 16 **BY MR. ANDERSON:**  
 17 **Q.** Is that what you're suggesting?  
 18 **A. Ask me one part of the question.**  
 19 **Q.** Did anybody communicate to you that Ken Pierre  
 20 believed that you were in need of continued  
 21 psychotherapy?  
 22 **A. No.**  
 23 **Q.** You knew Ken Pierre was communicating with  
 24 Bishop Watters and Archbishop Roach about your  
 25 status?

- 1 **A. I did not know that.**  
 2 **Q.** You knew that the Diocese of Winona was paying  
 3 for it?  
 4 **MR. BRAUN:** Objection, foundation.  
 5 **A. I don't know that.**  
 6 **BY MR. ANDERSON:**  
 7 **Q.** You weren't paying for it?  
 8 **A. No.**  
 9 **(Discussion out of the hearing of**  
 10 **the court reporter)**  
 11 **BY MR. ANDERSON:**  
 12 **Q.** That is correct, is it not, you were not  
 13 paying for it?  
 14 **A. Correct.**  
 15 **Q.** And as you continued in the Archdiocese of St.  
 16 Paul and Minneapolis until 1984, how many kids  
 17 did you sexually molest?  
 18 **A. I don't know. I'd have to study that out.**  
 19 **Q.** In February 10th, Archbishop Roach, the  
 20 records reflect, appoints you temporary  
 21 administrator at the Church of St. Boniface.  
 22 **MR. WIESER:** What year, counsel?  
 23 **MR. GEHAN:** What year, counsel?  
 24 **BY MR. ANDERSON:**  
 25 **Q.** In 1976. Does that sound correct?

- 1 **A. Yes.**  
 2 **Q.** While there -- look at the Doe list and number  
 3 32, and my question is, did you sexually abuse  
 4 Doe -- excuse me, Doe 22?  
 5 **A. No.**  
 6 **Q.** While there, did you ever sexually abuse Doe  
 7 22?  
 8 **A. Doe 22?**  
 9 **Q.** Yes.  
 10 **A. No.**  
 11 **Q.** Did you know Doe 22?  
 12 **A. No. I know the name just vaguely.**  
 13 **Q.** Did you have contact with youth at St.  
 14 Boniface?  
 15 **A. Yes.**  
 16 **Q.** Okay. In what context and how?  
 17 **A. Well, I know that Doe 24 was a contact at**  
 18 **least once.**  
 19 **Q.** Okay. And that was my next question. Did you  
 20 engage in sexual abuse of Doe 24?  
 21 **A. It's -- it's hazy, but I -- I think he went**  
 22 **outta town with me once, I know that, that's**  
 23 **all I remember.**  
 24 **Q.** And where did you go?  
 25 **A. To Rochester.**

- 1 Q. Overnight?
- 2 A. **Yes.**
- 3 Q. Where did you stay?
- 4 A. **At either my mother's or my aunt's.**
- 5 Q. Did you make any secret that you were
- 6 returning to Rochester, which is located in
- 7 the Diocese of Winona, to keep it from other
- 8 priests?
- 9 A. **Repeat the question.**
- 10 Q. Did you keep try to keep it a secret that you
- 11 were returning to the Diocese of Winona and
- 12 specifically Rochester?
- 13 A. **What, you mean now?**
- 14 Q. No. Then, when you were going with Doe 30 --
- 15 A. **I wasn't returning to the diocese. I was -- I**
- 16 **was taking -- I was picking up books or a**
- 17 **filing cabinet or something like that.**
- 18 Q. Did you try to keep that a secret or were
- 19 you --
- 20 A. **Well, no. There was -- no.**
- 21 Q. So people knew you were coming back to get
- 22 books, to visit, to see family or friends?
- 23 A. **Well, I -- I often visited my family here at**
- 24 **least.**
- 25 Q. Did you often travel with kids to do that?

- 1 A. **Not often.**
- 2 Q. But quite frequently?
- 3 A. **Sometimes.**
- 4 Q. And stay overnight on occasions?
- 5 A. **Sometimes.**
- 6 Q. And had them sleep in the same bed with you?
- 7 A. **Sometimes.**
- 8 Q. The records reflect on June 1st, Archbishop
- 9 Roach appointed you -- 1976 -- to be associate
- 10 pastor at Church of St. Thomas Aquinas in St.
- 11 Paul Park, is that correct?
- 12 MR. WIESER: Objection again. What
- 13 year, counsel?
- 14 MR. ANDERSON: I said 1976.
- 15 A. **The date again, please?**
- 16 **BY MR. ANDERSON:**
- 17 Q. June 1st, 1976.
- 18 A. **Okay. Yes.**
- 19 Q. When you were assigned to that parish, St.
- 20 Thomas Aquinas, to your knowledge, was anybody
- 21 informed of a history known to the officials
- 22 in the Diocese of Winona about your sexual
- 23 abuse of kids?
- 24 MR. BRAUN: Objection, foundation.
- 25 A. **Don't know that.**

- 1 **BY MR. ANDERSON:**
- 2 Q. Did you tell anybody that you had a history of
- 3 sexual abuse?
- 4 A. **No.**
- 5 Q. Did you tell Tice that you had a sexual
- 6 interest in kids and a history of having
- 7 abused them?
- 8 A. **I don't know what I told Tice. That's a long**
- 9 **time ago.**
- 10 Q. Did you tell Pierre?
- 11 A. **I don't know what I told Pierre.**
- 12 Q. When you were assigned to St. Thomas Aquinas,
- 13 you were assigned there with the joint
- 14 permission of Bishop Watters and Archbishop
- 15 Roach, correct?
- 16 A. **I don't know that.**
- 17 Q. You remained a priest of the Diocese of
- 18 Winona, but you knew you were under the
- 19 jurisdiction of the Archdiocese --
- 20 A. **Yes.**
- 21 Q. -- Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis --
- 22 A. **Excuse me.**
- 23 Q. -- presided by the archbishop, correct?
- 24 A. **Yes.**
- 25 Q. So you knew at that time you had two bosses?

- 1 MR. BRAUN: Objection, foundation.
- 2 A. **Yeah, I don't know if that's how you say it.**
- 3 **I don't know that.**
- 4 MR. GEHAN: Doesn't the archbishop
- 5 -- isn't he the boss of the bishop?
- 6 THE WITNESS: (Shakes head).
- 7 MR. ANDERSON: No.
- 8 MR. GEHAN: What do I know?
- 9 MR. ANDERSON: Yeah.
- 10 **BY MR. ANDERSON:**
- 11 Q. Look at Doe number 10 and you see that name.
- 12 Did you engage him in sexual abuse in 1977
- 13 while he was a teenager at the Mendota Country
- 14 Club in Mendota Heights?
- 15 A. **No. I don't recognize the name.**
- 16 Q. Were you given a citation or charged by
- 17 criminal complaint with attempted sexual abuse
- 18 of that kid?
- 19 A. **I don't know that. I don't --**
- 20 Q. Do you remember getting charged by the police?
- 21 A. **Pardon me?**
- 22 Q. Do you remember getting charged by the police?
- 23 A. **Yes.**
- 24 Q. What did you get charged with?
- 25 A. **I think attempted contact. I don't think I**

- 1 **ever had any actual contact with that -- now,**  
 2 **I -- I have some recollection what that's**  
 3 **about.**  
 4 **Q.** Tell us how the police became involved and how  
 5 you got charged.  
 6 **A.** **Is all I know is, is we were gonna meet and he**  
 7 **told his father and that we had a previous**  
 8 **meeting, I don't think there was any sex**  
 9 **involved, and then his father and the police**  
 10 **appeared on the scene.**  
 11 **Q.** At what scene?  
 12 **A.** **At the -- I -- I think it was a golf course.**  
 13 **Q.** And at that time, were you actually charged  
 14 with a crime of attempted sexual abuse?  
 15 **A.** **No.**  
 16 **Q.** Were you later charged with a crime of  
 17 attempted sexual abuse?  
 18 **A.** **No.**  
 19 **Q.** Were you given a citation or a complaint?  
 20 **A.** **I don't know what I was given.**  
 21 **Q.** Okay.  
 22 (Discussion out of the hearing of  
 23 the court reporter)  
 24 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 25 **Q.** Who was there when the police came?

- 1 **A.** **I think the police was there, I think this**  
 2 **-- this 28 -- what number is it?**  
 3 **Q.** This would be number 10, Doe 10.  
 4 **A.** **Doe 10. I think his father was there, but I**  
 5 **don't remember.**  
 6 **Q.** And you hadn't completed the sexual act, but  
 7 you attempted to engage in a sexual act, is  
 8 that right?  
 9 **A.** **I don't remember those details.**  
 10 **Q.** Okay. And do you remember what you got  
 11 charged with by the police?  
 12 **A.** **No.**  
 13 **Q.** Do you remember what police agency it was that  
 14 came and spoke with you?  
 15 **A.** **No.**  
 16 **Q.** What happened to that police activity?  
 17 **A.** **I think they asked me to do counseling and --**  
 18 **and that -- and that's what I did.**  
 19 **Q.** When you say "they," who is the "they" that  
 20 asked you to do it?  
 21 **A.** **The police or whoever was dealing with me.**  
 22 **Q.** And how many times did you have contact with  
 23 the police?  
 24 **A.** **Once, maybe twice.**  
 25 **Q.** Do you know who that was?

- 1 **A.** **No.**  
 2 **Q.** And did they rely upon you to tell them that  
 3 you had gone into counseling or did they check  
 4 with somebody that worked with you to make  
 5 sure you had?  
 6 **A.** **I don't know who found the counseling for me.**  
 7 **It did not go through church sources.**  
 8 **Q.** Okay. And that was my next question. To your  
 9 knowledge, who did you tell about what had  
 10 happened at the golf course and the police  
 11 involvement?  
 12 **A.** **No one.**  
 13 **Q.** And so did you ever formally get charged with  
 14 a crime?  
 15 **A.** **No.**  
 16 **Q.** And while at St. Thomas Aquinas -- I'm going  
 17 to ask you to look at the Doe list and I'm  
 18 going to go through some numbers and ask if  
 19 you abused any of these kids or attempted to  
 20 sexually abuse. First, look at Doe 27. Do  
 21 you see that name?  
 22 **A.** **(Examining documents) I see that name.**  
 23 **Q.** Do you recognize it?  
 24 **A.** **Yes.**  
 25 **Q.** And did you have a relationship with him or

- 1 his family?  
 2 **A.** **No. I didn't know his family.**  
 3 **Q.** Did you sexually abuse him or attempt to?  
 4 **A.** **No.**  
 5 **Q.** Look at Doe 32. Do you see that name?  
 6 **A.** **Yes.**  
 7 **Q.** Do you recognize it?  
 8 **A.** **No.**  
 9 **Q.** Do you have any knowledge of having attempted  
 10 to sexually abuse a kid by that name or  
 11 something close to it?  
 12 **A.** **Thirty-two?**  
 13 **Q.** Thirty-two.  
 14 **A.** **No.**  
 15 **Q.** Look at Doe 1. Do you recognize that name?  
 16 **A.** **Yes.**  
 17 **Q.** And did you know that family?  
 18 **A.** **Yes.**  
 19 **Q.** And did you know them to be a good Catholic  
 20 family?  
 21 **A.** **Yes.**  
 22 **Q.** And you knew that you were the pastor of this  
 23 family?  
 24 **A.** **I was associate pastor.**  
 25 **Q.** Okay. And their priest, correct?

1 **A. Yes.**  
 2 **Q.** And did you sexually abuse Doe 1?  
 3 **A. I don't remember sexually abusing him.**  
 4 **Q.** You do remember spending time with him?  
 5 **A. Well, very little. In a group setting. He --**  
 6 **he was very active around the -- the church**  
 7 **and a faithful worker.**  
 8 **Q.** Did you attempt to sexually abuse him?  
 9 **A. No. I don't remember that.**  
 10 **Q.** You don't deny it, but you're not sure that  
 11 you attempted to or did?  
 12 **A. I don't remember attempting to -- to touch him**  
 13 **or whatever.**  
 14 **Q.** And Doe 10 I've asked you about, and you admit  
 15 the attempt of Doe 10, correct? That's the  
 16 police involvement.  
 17 **A. Well, I don't know what the attempt was. I**  
 18 **remember being with him, that's all I can say.**  
 19 **Q.** All right.  
 20 MR. GEHAN: Counsel, can we take a  
 21 couple minutes?  
 22 MR. ANDERSON: Yes.  
 23 MR. GEHAN: Thank you.  
 24 MR. LEANN: Off the video record at  
 25 3:20 p.m.

1 (Recess taken)  
 2 MR. LEANN: Back on the video record  
 3 at 3:32 p.m.  
 4 MR. ANDERSON: Mike just reminded me  
 5 and you had mentioned, counsel, that there was  
 6 one document responsive to the subpoena, but  
 7 that you felt that there was a potential issue  
 8 or privilege that should apply. Let's deal  
 9 with that and state what it is and what your  
 10 position is.  
 11 MR. GEHAN: Okay. It's actually two  
 12 documents. Mr. Adamson was counseled -- this  
 13 is a partial document. There are two. The  
 14 first one is a letter dated March 29, 1985,  
 15 Servants of the Paraclete. And a Ph.D. of  
 16 this institute was providing some counseling  
 17 to Mr. Adamson and wrote a report regarding  
 18 Mr. Adamson's progress in -- did I say March  
 19 29, 1985? This was to Bishop Watters.  
 20 The second document, it's a  
 21 confidential report that is undated regarding  
 22 -- oh, no, it's May 29, 2008, and it's  
 23 regarding counseling -- is this yours? Is  
 24 this your --  
 25 THE WITNESS: It was a thing where

1 the dioceses that were too small to have a  
 2 person supervising their abusers, then a  
 3 substitute was to send in a monthly report.  
 4 MR. GEHAN: Is this you --  
 5 THE WITNESS: I sent in the report,  
 6 and I did that once a month for a few years,  
 7 very detailed. They ask questions if you've  
 8 been away from home, if you ever stayed away  
 9 from your apartment and who have you seen,  
 10 where have you been and it was a monthly  
 11 report.  
 12 MR. GEHAN: This is a report Mr.  
 13 Adamson gave monthly to his bishop. And this  
 14 would have been to the bishop in Winona,  
 15 correct?  
 16 THE WITNESS: Yes.  
 17 MR. GEHAN: And it's just one copy  
 18 of --  
 19 THE WITNESS: It's one month I  
 20 brought as a sample --  
 21 MR. GEHAN: Oh.  
 22 THE WITNESS: -- of something that I  
 23 did per month, three years, I think.  
 24 MR. GEHAN: And then the other thing  
 25 is a report regarding -- from a Ph.D., and I'm

1 going to claim that these are privileged,  
 2 medically privileged. And they will be  
 3 available if the special master or Judge Van  
 4 de North requires me to give them to you, I'll  
 5 give them to you.  
 6 MR. ANDERSON: Okay. Let's do this.  
 7 First let's, for purposes of laying the  
 8 foundation for whatever we need to, let's mark  
 9 -- let's mark them as exhibits, you can keep  
 10 them in your possession and --  
 11 MR. GEHAN: All right.  
 12 MR. ANDERSON: -- for now and let's  
 13 identify the first one of March 29th, 1985, as  
 14 Exhibit AA. And you've made an offer of proof  
 15 on the record and in it -- for purposes of  
 16 privilege, I think, you did say that it was  
 17 sent to Bishop Watters --  
 18 MR. GEHAN: That's correct.  
 19 MR. ANDERSON: -- and if that is the  
 20 case, just so our position is clear, these are  
 21 the kinds of things routinely sent to the  
 22 superior, in this case Bishop Watters being  
 23 one of them, and that constituted a waiver of  
 24 that privilege. And we'll -- in respect to  
 25 the position you've taken, I just wanted to

1 state what ours is.  
 2 And then the second document we'll  
 3 mark just for purposes of identification as AB  
 4 and that would be dated May the 29th, 2008.  
 5 MR. GEHAN: Yes.  
 6 MR. ANDERSON: And you didn't  
 7 characterize it this way, but it sounds like  
 8 Mr. Adamson, and my read of that is, it's some  
 9 kind of monitoring being done by the Diocese  
 10 of Winona of his activities by somebody  
 11 appointed by the bishop who's either a clergy,  
 12 a deacon or a monitor.  
 13 MR. GEHAN: That's probably right.  
 14 MR. ANDERSON: Okay. By the way it  
 15 sounds. Maybe I should ask him if that's  
 16 correct foundationally.  
 17 MR. GEHAN: Does that sound correct  
 18 to you?  
 19 THE WITNESS: That's fine. She was  
 20 chancellor, I think, a woman chancellor that  
 21 it went to, but she was representing the  
 22 bishop.  
 23 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 24 Q. And she was appointed by the bishop to  
 25 basically monitor you to make sure you were

1 acting in accord with their expectations?  
 2 A. Yes.  
 3 MR. BRAUN: I'll object to the  
 4 foundation. Do you know that to be true?  
 5 THE WITNESS: Pardon me, Tom?  
 6 MR. BRAUN: Do you know that be  
 7 true, what he just asked you?  
 8 A. Repeat the question.  
 9 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 10 Q. The chancellor was appointed by the bishop to  
 11 be monitoring your activities?  
 12 A. Yes.  
 13 Q. And this document is some report of that?  
 14 A. Was a monthly report.  
 15 (Discussion out of the hearing of  
 16 the court reporter)  
 17 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 18 Q. Okay. And you're writing it and sending it in  
 19 to the chancellor for the bishop's eyes?  
 20 A. Yes.  
 21 Q. And was that Harrington or his successor in  
 22 '08?  
 23 A. Harrington.  
 24 Q. Okay.  
 25 MR. ANDERSON: I think, you know,

1 for that, I think that satisfies the record.  
 2 We can sort that when necessary.  
 3 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 4 Q. Going back, then, to the time frame of your  
 5 assignment at St. Thomas Aquinas, and I direct  
 6 your attention back to the Doe list, and I'd  
 7 last asked you about Doe 10, that's where the  
 8 police involvement had been.  
 9 Look at Doe 11 and my question to  
 10 you is, do you recognize that name as being a  
 11 kid in the parish and you knew?  
 12 A. Yes.  
 13 Q. Is it also a kid who you sexually abused?  
 14 A. No.  
 15 Q. Is it a kid that you spent time with alone?  
 16 A. No.  
 17 Q. Do you deny ever having attempted to sexually  
 18 abuse him?  
 19 A. Yes.  
 20 Q. Look at Doe 20. Do you recognize that name?  
 21 A. Yes.  
 22 Q. Is that a kid who was in the parish?  
 23 A. Yes.  
 24 Q. Whom you knew to be the son of some  
 25 parishioners?

1 A. Yes.  
 2 Q. And with whom you spent time alone?  
 3 A. No. I don't remember spending time with him.  
 4 Q. Did you sexually abuse --  
 5 A. No.  
 6 Q. -- him or ever attempt to sexually abuse him?  
 7 A. No.  
 8 Q. The next is Doe 19, I think you've already  
 9 identified him, but did you sexually abuse Doe  
 10 19?  
 11 A. Yes.  
 12 Q. How many times?  
 13 A. Several.  
 14 Q. When you say "several," what do you mean?  
 15 A. Well, it would have been for a period of a  
 16 year, maybe more than once a month.  
 17 Q. Look at Doe -- and that abuse involved oral  
 18 copulation?  
 19 A. There was some.  
 20 Q. And was there attempted anal?  
 21 A. No.  
 22 Q. Was there ever attempted anal?  
 23 A. No. Not that I know of.  
 24 Q. Was there ejaculation?  
 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. By you?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. By him?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And by other kids?
- 6 A. **What do you mean, other kids?**
- 7 Q. Yes.
- 8 MR. BRAUN: Talking about at any
- 9 time?
- 10 MR. ANDERSON: Yes.
- 11 BY MR. ANDERSON:
- 12 Q. Did you have other kids ejaculate?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. Did you ejaculate when abusing the other kids?
- 15 A. Sometimes.
- 16 Q. Did you use a vibrator with or on any of these
- 17 kids?
- 18 A. Sometimes.
- 19 Q. How many different kids did you use a vibrator
- 20 on?
- 21 A. **I don't know that.**
- 22 Q. Look at Doe 36. Do you see that name?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. Did you abuse him?
- 25 A. **Don't recognize the name.**

- 1 (Discussion out of the hearing of
- 2 the court reporter)
- 3 BY MR. ANDERSON:
- 4 Q. You were then assigned from St. Thomas Aquinas
- 5 to the Immaculate Conception parish and my
- 6 question to you is, I've asked you about some
- 7 kids on the list and if you abused any of
- 8 those while you were assigned to St. Thomas
- 9 Aquinas. Are there any other kids who have
- 10 not been identified either on that list with
- 11 whom you engaged in some sexual contact or
- 12 abuse?
- 13 A. **At St. Thomas Aquinas?**
- 14 Q. Yes.
- 15 A. **No. I don't recall any more.**
- 16 Q. Okay. At Immaculate Conception, when you were
- 17 assigned there, what was your understanding as
- 18 to why Archbishop Roach and Bishop Watters
- 19 permitted that assignment and made it?
- 20 MR. BRAUN: Objection as to
- 21 foundation. You can answer if you know.
- 22 A. **I don't know the -- the -- it was a -- a clear**
- 23 **promotion, that's all I can say.**
- 24 BY MR. ANDERSON:
- 25 Q. Okay.

- 1 A. **It's one of the bigger parishes and he asked**
- 2 **me to do it.**
- 3 Q. And when you say "he," are you referring to
- 4 Archbishop Roach?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. And you knew at that time that Archbishop
- 7 Roach had the authority to make that
- 8 assignment?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. And had also required the permission of
- 11 Archbishop (sic) Watters to do so?
- 12 A. **I don't know that.**
- 13 Q. Now, you said it was a clear promotion. What
- 14 made you believe it was a promotion?
- 15 A. **Well, it was a big parish, a big school, 2300**
- 16 **families. It was a big job.**
- 17 Q. You had been a pastor at St. Thomas Aquinas,
- 18 had you not?
- 19 A. No.
- 20 Q. You'd been associate pastor?
- 21 A. Right.
- 22 Q. And when you were appointed to the Immaculate
- 23 Conception in Columbia Heights, you were
- 24 appointed as administrator, were you not?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. What were you told about why you were named
- 2 administrator?
- 3 A. **Because I was not of the diocese and that was**
- 4 **a technicality, the way I understood it.**
- 5 Q. Okay. Did anybody ever tell you that it was
- 6 easier to remove you if there was a problem if
- 7 you were named administrator versus pastor or
- 8 associate pastor under the canon law?
- 9 A. No.
- 10 Q. How many kids did you abuse or attempt to
- 11 abuse sexually while working as a priest at
- 12 Immaculate Conception in Columbia Heights?
- 13 A. **I'd say one.**
- 14 Q. Look at Doe 21.
- 15 A. Okay.
- 16 Q. Did you sexually abuse him or attempt to?
- 17 A. **I don't recognize the name at all.**
- 18 Q. Look at Doe 18. Did you use abuse or attempt
- 19 to abuse him?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. How many times?
- 22 A. Several.
- 23 Q. And what does "several" mean?
- 24 A. **More than once a month.**
- 25 Q. For how long?

- 1 **A. For 14 months maybe.**
- 2 **Q.** Look at Doe 17, did you abuse or attempt to
- 3 sexually abuse him?
- 4 **A. I would say no. I think the accusation was**
- 5 **there that I attempted to -- to touch him, but**
- 6 **I never touched him was my understanding.**
- 7 **Q.** So it was attempted sexual abuse, but it's
- 8 your belief that you did not succeed?
- 9 **A. I don't -- I think attempt is too strong.**
- 10 **Q.** What did you do?
- 11 **A. I took him with, he went with me to a --**
- 12 **recreation things and swimming and that type**
- 13 **of thing and he told his father that he**
- 14 **thought it was weird, I think is -- but I**
- 15 **never touched his genitalia.**
- 16 **Q.** Did you have a sexual interest in him?
- 17 **A. No.**
- 18 **Q.** Why not him and at the same time you did have
- 19 a sexual interest in 18 and others?
- 20 **A. Don't know.**
- 21 **Q.** Look at Doe 25. Did you sexually abuse him?
- 22 **A. No.**
- 23 **Q.** Did you know him and his family?
- 24 **A. Barely.**
- 25 **Q.** Did you spend time with him?

- 1 **A. No.**
- 2 **Q.** At some point in time, you were sent to see
- 3 Dr. Gendron by the archdiocese, officials of
- 4 the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis,
- 5 were you not?
- 6 **A. Yes.**
- 7 **Q.** Why?
- 8 **A. Through -- because of the accusation,**
- 9 **father, I think, and -- and I was**
- 10 **removed from that parish and that I would get**
- 11 **treatment from Dr. Gendron, which I did.**
- 12 **Q.** When you were removed from the Immaculate
- 13 Conception parish for accusations of sexual
- 14 abuse, that was a removal done by Archbishop
- 15 Roach, correct?
- 16 **A. Yes.**
- 17 **Q.** In consultation with then Father Carlson?
- 18 **A. I don't know that.**
- 19 **Q.** What was Father Carlson's involvement with you
- 20 at that time?
- 21 **A. Well, he would be the front man for the**
- 22 **archbishop with problem stuff.**
- 23 **Q.** Okay. And, obviously, you've given some
- 24 testimony about a lot of these things before,
- 25 correct, Mr. Adamson?

- 1 **A. Yes.**
- 2 **Q.** Yes. And that was many years ago and when you
- 3 were asked about some of these events, is it
- 4 fair to say that your memory about some of
- 5 these events was fresher then ten or more
- 6 years ago than it is today?
- 7 **A. Well, that's a generic thing, I think 30 years**
- 8 **makes a difference.**
- 9 **Q.** In any case, when you were removed by
- 10 Archbishop Roach from Immaculate Conception,
- 11 what did he order you to do or not do?
- 12 **A. Well, I think he wanted me to go back to the**
- 13 **Winona diocese. Let me see. No. That's not**
- 14 **true. He ordered me -- I don't know who did**
- 15 **the ordering. I didn't see much of Archbishop**
- 16 **Roach through this and it would have been his**
- 17 **-- Michael Korf was director of priest**
- 18 **personnel, and between him and Carlson, they**
- 19 **would have -- and I went to see -- I made a**
- 20 **retreat and I -- simultaneously I was seeing**
- 21 **Dr. Gendron.**
- 22 MR. GEHAN: Counsel, could I
- 23 interrupt you one more time? Can you put
- 24 dates on these for me? When was he removed
- 25 from Immaculate Conception?

- 1 MR. ANDERSON: 1979, June 13th --
- 2 MR. GEHAN: Thank you.
- 3 MR. ANDERSON: -- he's appointed
- 4 administrator of Immaculate Conception and --
- 5 and 1981, February 2nd, he's made associate
- 6 pastor at Risen Savior.
- 7 MR. GEHAN: Thanks.
- 8 MR. ANDERSON: You're welcome.
- 9 BY MR. ANDERSON:
- 10 **Q.** In the removal and at the time of it, did any
- 11 official from the Archdiocese of St. Paul and
- 12 Minneapolis, including Roach, Carlson or Korf,
- 13 ask you why you had been transferred from the
- 14 Diocese of Winona?
- 15 **A. No.**
- 16 **Q.** Did any of them ask you to answer questions
- 17 concerning your sexual history, and in
- 18 particular, your history of sexually abusing
- 19 kids?
- 20 **A. No. I don't recall that.**
- 21 **Q.** Did any of them ask you why the Diocese of
- 22 Winona and the bishop there refused to take
- 23 you back, even though you urged to be
- 24 returned?
- 25 **A. No.**



- 1 Q. Did any of the officials of the Archdiocese of  
2 St. Paul and Minneapolis ask you anything  
3 about your sexual history?  
4 A. No.  
5 Q. You were sent to King's Retreat House. For  
6 what purpose?  
7 A. **It was to figure out what I was going to do**  
8 **and what they did or did not want me to do, I**  
9 **think. It was a lag time.**  
10 Q. And you were sent by the archdiocesan  
11 officials to see Dr. Gendron at the -- a  
12 psychiatrist, correct?  
13 A. Yes.  
14 Q. And you did see Dr. Gendron?  
15 A. Yes.  
16 Q. And Dr. Gendron was told by you and the  
17 officials of the archdiocese that you were  
18 accused of sexual abuse and he was to try to  
19 help you, right?  
20 A. I presume so.  
21 Q. And you also understood that the treatment and  
22 diagnosis that he provided was -- and the  
23 information was being provided to the  
24 officials of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and  
25 Minneapolis that sent you there, correct?

- 1 A. **I don't know that.**  
2 Q. And at some point in time, you stopped seeing  
3 Ken Pierre, correct?  
4 A. **We just went over that a bit ago.**  
5 Q. Okay. Did you ever go back to Pierre?  
6 A. **I don't know.**  
7 Q. Okay. When you saw Gendron initially, that  
8 was inpatient, wasn't it?  
9 A. Yes.  
10 Q. And that was at St. Mary's?  
11 A. Yes.  
12 Q. Did any -- did you share with any -- let me  
13 ask this. At any time, did you take kids to  
14 the YMCA using an alias, that is, not your  
15 name, a disguise?  
16 A. **It was not an alias, it was someone's card**  
17 **that was given to me, I think.**  
18 Q. Tell me the circumstances of that.  
19 A. **Well, at that time I was -- I had a Y**  
20 **membership for a long time, which ran out.**  
21 **And when I went to Apple Valley, I joined the**  
22 **Normandale operation, which had facilities all**  
23 **over the Twin Cities. And that -- someone, I**  
24 **think, gave me that card that I'd use until it**  
25 **expired. That's -- that's my recollection of**

- 1 it.  
2 Q. And when was that?  
3 A. **It was St. Paul, I think east side, it might**  
4 **have been for the whole city, but it was a St.**  
5 **Paul YMCA.**  
6 Q. And what parish were you then assigned to when  
7 you were using that card?  
8 A. **I think Risen Savior in Apple Valley.**  
9 Q. Okay. And what kid or kids on the Doe list  
10 were you bringing to the facility?  
11 A. **Well, I don't know of anyone that I was**  
12 **bringing there. There -- I was -- I was**  
13 **living in Apple Valley. None of those people**  
14 **went there with me. Some of those names we**  
15 **discussed might have gone with me to the**  
16 **Normandale thing.**  
17 Q. Well, we got that information from somebody  
18 that thought you were using an alias that was  
19 a kid, okay? And so -- who claimed that you  
20 had sexually abused him. And so my question  
21 to you is, did you use that card to bring any  
22 kids to that facility under a name other than  
23 yours and engage any kids in sexual contact?  
24 A. No.  
25 Q. You admit having used somebody else's card,

- 1 but deny the sexual abuse of the kid?  
2 A. Yes.  
3 Q. At some point in time, did Archbishop Roach  
4 and the officials acting on his behalf,  
5 Carlson and/or Korf or others, impose  
6 restrictions on you to not have contact with  
7 youth?  
8 A. **I never got that message. Not from Archbishop**  
9 **Roach or his helpers.**  
10 Q. Did you get it from anybody?  
11 A. **Well, long afterwards, I -- I found out that**  
12 **that had happened, but I didn't know about it**  
13 **during my working time, service time.**  
14 Q. When in time did you first learn that you were  
15 restricted or supposed to have been restricted  
16 from any contact with youth?  
17 A. **I -- I never knew that I was restricted from**  
18 **any contact. But I knew that it had been**  
19 **reported to the Apple Valley people that --**  
20 **that there had been problems.**  
21 Q. And after those problems were reported, is it  
22 correct that you were, then, asked and  
23 required to put the restrictions that had been  
24 imposed on you early into writing so that you  
25 would understand them and agree to them?

1 **A. No.**  
 2 **Q.** Do you have any recollection of having agreed  
 3 to restrictions on your ministry with youth?  
 4 **A. No.**  
 5 (Discussion out of the hearing of  
 6 the court reporter)  
 7 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 8 **Q.** There's a document that -- it's called a  
 9 special agreement between Archbishop Roach and  
 10 Reverend Thomas Adamson. It's been marked  
 11 Exhibit 47.  
 12 **A. (Examining documents).**  
 13 **Q.** Is that your signature?  
 14 **A. Yes.**  
 15 **Q.** Do you recall that this was a written  
 16 agreement between you and the archbishop to  
 17 restrict your contact with youth and other  
 18 things?  
 19 **A. I don't recall that till I, you know, I see**  
 20 **this document.**  
 21 **Q.** Do you recall that restrictions had been  
 22 imposed on you earlier now and that those had  
 23 been violated, so they sat down with you and  
 24 said, "We're gonna put this into writing," and  
 25 this reflects that?

1 **A. I don't recall that.**  
 2 **Q.** When you were in the Archdiocese of St. Paul  
 3 and Minneapolis and treating with Dr. Gendron,  
 4 inpatient first and then outpatient, were you  
 5 continuing to communicate with Bishop Watters  
 6 about your status and how you were doing?  
 7 **A. I don't recall that one way or the other.**  
 8 **Q.** Do you recall writing him from St. Mary's  
 9 Hospital?  
 10 **A. Possibly.**  
 11 **Q.** Did any official of the Archdiocese of St.  
 12 Paul and Minneapolis ever ask you why you had  
 13 seen Ken Pierre?  
 14 **A. Why I had seen him or --**  
 15 **Q.** Why you'd been required to see Ken Pierre for  
 16 treatment.  
 17 **A. No one ever asked me that, that I recall.**  
 18 **Q.** Did any official of the archdiocese --  
 19 (Discussion out of the hearing of  
 20 the court reporter)  
 21 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 22 **Q.** When you were still seeing Ken Pierre, who was  
 23 at the Consultation Services Center in the  
 24 Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis, did  
 25 any official of the archdiocese ever ask you

1 why you were seeing him at that time?  
 2 **A. No.**  
 3 **Q.** Did you have a belief and understanding that  
 4 Ken Pierre was able to share the information  
 5 he was getting from you with Bishop Watters  
 6 and the officials of the archdiocese?  
 7 MR. WIESER: Objection to the form  
 8 of the question, compound. It'd be better if  
 9 you broke that one down, counsel.  
 10 MR. BRAUN: I concur.  
 11 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 12 **Q.** Did you understand that Ken Pierre was free to  
 13 share information with Bishop Watters?  
 14 **A. Yes.**  
 15 **Q.** Did you understand he was free to share it  
 16 with Archbishop Roach?  
 17 **A. Yes.**  
 18 (Discussion out of the hearing of  
 19 the court reporter)  
 20 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 21 **Q.** Is it correct that the first time you saw Ken  
 22 Pierre and were required to, you admitted  
 23 having abused kids?  
 24 **A. I don't recall what we talked about.**  
 25 **Q.** Do you recall early on Pierre discussing your

1 sexual history and your sexual interest in  
 2 kids with him?  
 3 **A. I don't recall those sessions.**  
 4 **Q.** Do you recall Ken Pierre advocating to Bishop  
 5 Watters that he thought you were now ready to  
 6 return to the Diocese of Winona?  
 7 **A. Vaguely I remember that, but vaguely.**  
 8 **Q.** And you do remember that Bishop Watters and  
 9 the priest personnel board in Winona were  
 10 saying repeatedly, "No way he can come back  
 11 here"?  
 12 MR. BRAUN: Objection, asked and  
 13 answered.  
 14 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 15 **Q.** Correct?  
 16 **A. I think the "no way" is too strong.**  
 17 **Q.** They refused your request to get back there?  
 18 **A. Yes.**  
 19 **Q.** And even though Ken Pierre advocated for you  
 20 to return to the Diocese of Winona?  
 21 **A. Yes.**  
 22 **Q.** I'm going to show you a few documents here and  
 23 the first is marked Exhibit 2 -- actually,  
 24 it's 2A.  
 25 MR. ANDERSON: Don't you want to

<p style="text-align: center;">201</p> <p>1 show him 2 first? Okay.</p> <p>2 BY MR. ANDERSON:</p> <p>3 Q. I'm showing you Exhibit 2A and it's dated</p> <p>4 November 25th, 1984 -- excuse me, 1964. And</p> <p>5 this is from the then bishop of Winona, which</p> <p>6 would have been Fitzgerald, it's addressed to</p> <p>7 Reverend Cashman at Lourdes High School in</p> <p>8 Rochester. Is this the point at which you'll</p> <p>9 see here and I'll read it, "Owing to the</p> <p>10 health of Father Adamson, I find it necessary</p> <p>11 to make a change at Caledonia so that he may</p> <p>12 be able to receive treatment at the Mayo</p> <p>13 Clinic in Rochester." Does this refresh your</p> <p>14 recollection that Bishop Fitzgerald sent you</p> <p>15 for treatment to Mayo Clinic?</p> <p>16 A. <b>I never went to Mayo Clinic.</b></p> <p>17 Q. Okay. Were you sent someplace else instead?</p> <p>18 A. <b>Not that I recall.</b></p> <p>19 Q. Do you have any idea why he's writing to</p> <p>20 Cashman about your health and the need to have</p> <p>21 you receive treatment at Mayo?</p> <p>22 A. <b>No.</b></p> <p>23 MR. BRAUN: Objection, foundation.</p> <p>24 A. <b>No.</b></p> <p>25 BY MR. ANDERSON:</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">203</p> <p>1 <b>and I could not -- I was in no -- no position</b></p> <p>2 <b>to challenge him.</b></p> <p>3 Q. Okay. This is where Jansen had gotten a</p> <p>4 report and he's the one that asked you to see</p> <p>5 Tice?</p> <p>6 A. <b>Yes.</b></p> <p>7 Q. Okay. And you didn't pay for this, correct?</p> <p>8 A. <b>Correct.</b></p> <p>9 Q. Showing you Exhibit 6. This would be minutes</p> <p>10 of the personnel board of the Diocese of</p> <p>11 Winona produced to us, and at the top it says,</p> <p>12 "The meeting was called to order by Chairman</p> <p>13 Trocinski May 20th, 1974, at St. John's in</p> <p>14 Rochester." And then the second portion of it</p> <p>15 says, "Father Tom Adamson is having a</p> <p>16 recurring problem. He may go to an institute</p> <p>17 in the East and may have to be replaced at St.</p> <p>18 Francis. Jim Russell is available to go to</p> <p>19 St. Francis or replace one who would go</p> <p>20 there." The recurring problem you were having</p> <p>21 at that time was sexual abuse of boys, was it</p> <p>22 not?</p> <p>23 A. <b>I don't know that.</b></p> <p>24 Q. And why did you understand you had to go to</p> <p>25 the Institute of Living?</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">202</p> <p>1 Q. Are you aware that Cashman replaced you?</p> <p>2 A. <b>Yes.</b></p> <p>3 Q. I'm gonna show you now an Exhibit 5. And this</p> <p>4 is a statement for services dated 4-30-74 for</p> <p>5 a psychological evaluation requested by</p> <p>6 Francis A. Tice for you, then Father Thomas</p> <p>7 Adamson, correct, and it's submitted by John</p> <p>8 -- is that Hawkinson?</p> <p>9 A. <b>Yes.</b></p> <p>10 Q. These are treatments being paid for by whom?</p> <p>11 A. <b>Not by me.</b></p> <p>12 Q. And how long did you see Tice?</p> <p>13 A. <b>I don't know that.</b></p> <p>14 (Discussion out of the hearing of</p> <p>15 the court reporter)</p> <p>16 BY MR. ANDERSON:</p> <p>17 Q. What prompted you to be required to go to him?</p> <p>18 A. <b>We've been over that, haven't we?</b></p> <p>19 Q. Well, I'm trying to put this in time. We have</p> <p>20 a date here of 4-30-74. What caused you to be</p> <p>21 required to see Tice at that time?</p> <p>22 A. <b>Tice and Father Jansen were friends and Father</b></p> <p>23 <b>Jansen thought I was, as far as I know, I was</b></p> <p>24 <b>going to ask someone to undress or what. I</b></p> <p>25 <b>never had a name, but he asked me to do this</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">204</p> <p>1 A. <b>That was Dr. Tice's recommendation.</b></p> <p>2 Q. And you were at the Institute of Living for</p> <p>3 how long?</p> <p>4 A. <b>I'm guessing eight weeks, but I don't know</b></p> <p>5 <b>that.</b></p> <p>6 Q. And it was Bishop Watters that ultimately</p> <p>7 permitted that and the Diocese of Winona that</p> <p>8 paid for it?</p> <p>9 A. <b>Yes.</b></p> <p>10 MR. BRAUN: Objection, foundation.</p> <p>11 (Discussion out of the hearing of</p> <p>12 the court reporter)</p> <p>13 BY MR. ANDERSON:</p> <p>14 Q. What was the parish and the parishioners where</p> <p>15 you had been working told about your departure</p> <p>16 to the Institute of Living?</p> <p>17 MR. BRAUN: Objection, foundation.</p> <p>18 A. <b>Nothing, as far as I know.</b></p> <p>19 (Discussion out of the hearing of</p> <p>20 the court reporter)</p> <p>21 BY MR. ANDERSON:</p> <p>22 Q. In 1975 when you were at St. Leo's and living</p> <p>23 there with Father Dolan, did Father Dolan ask</p> <p>24 you why you had been -- why you had been</p> <p>25 required to leave the Diocese of Winona --</p>

1 **A. No.**  
 2 **Q.** -- and now living in the archdiocese with him?  
 3 **A. Don't recall anything with him.**  
 4 **Q.** Did he ask you about you having seen Ken  
 5 Pierre and the reasons you were being required  
 6 to?  
 7 **A. No.**  
 8 (Discussion out of the hearing of  
 9 the court reporter)  
 10 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 11 **Q.** In May of 1975, there's a letter from bishop  
 12 of Winona to you and there is -- I'll just  
 13 read a sentence and then ask you a question.  
 14 First, at that time when you were in the  
 15 Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis, did  
 16 you make a request while at St. Leo's to do  
 17 marriage encounter work in the Diocese of  
 18 Winona and have it refused?  
 19 **A. I don't know that. I did a lot of marriage**  
 20 **encounter work.**  
 21 **Q.** It states that --  
 22 MR. WIESER: Counsel, do you have a  
 23 copy of that exhibit?  
 24 MR. ANDERSON: It's Exhibit 17,  
 25 sure.

1 MR. WIESER: Thanks.  
 2 MR. FINNEGAN: Can you see it?  
 3 (Discussion out of the hearing of  
 4 the court reporter)  
 5 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 6 **Q.** Instead of going through the whole thing, I'll  
 7 read a part of it and then ask you a question.  
 8 It states in the second paragraph, "Thanks for  
 9 the progress report." That means you had  
 10 given to Bishop Watters. And then it says,  
 11 "As for considering the request to join a team  
 12 to give occasional marriage encounters in the  
 13 Diocese of Winona, it is my conviction that at  
 14 this time and for the immediate future you  
 15 should decline the invitation." Do you recall  
 16 that?  
 17 **A. I don't recall that.**  
 18 **Q.** It goes on to state to you, "And this, a  
 19 similar project in the Cities; obviously there  
 20 is a great difference in the two cases, but  
 21 the similarity lies in that our lay people are  
 22 easily confused even when they shouldn't be."  
 23 Do you remember receiving this letter from  
 24 Bishop Watters?  
 25 **A. Where -- which paragraph did you just read**

1 **from?**  
 2 **Q.** The second -- actually the third.  
 3 **A. "Thanks for the progress"?**  
 4 **Q.** That started, "As for considering the  
 5 request."  
 6 **A. Okay.**  
 7 **Q.** My question is, do you remember receiving the  
 8 letter?  
 9 **A. No.**  
 10 **Q.** Okay. What about any engagement with Father  
 11 Fiola, do you remember that?  
 12 **A. I know who he was, but I don't know anything**  
 13 **about his assignment.**  
 14 **Q.** Do you know if he was told anything about your  
 15 history?  
 16 **A. That's Father Fiola?**  
 17 **Q.** Yeah.  
 18 **A. Not that I know of.**  
 19 **Q.** Was he -- did he have any -- did you have any  
 20 knowledge of him having abused?  
 21 **A. I don't know that he did.**  
 22 (Discussion out of the hearing of  
 23 the court reporter)  
 24 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 25 **Q.** I'm going to show you Exhibit 19 dated January

1 26, 1976, marked confidential, a memo to  
 2 Father John Kinney from Archbishop Roach. The  
 3 subject, Father Thomas Adamson. It's stated  
 4 by Kinney to Roach, "I received a call from  
 5 Bishop Loras Watters on January 23rd  
 6 concerning Father Thomas Adamson. Father  
 7 Adamson's period of residence and work in the  
 8 diocese was to have been completed this  
 9 January. For reasons which Bishop Watters was  
 10 unwilling to discuss on the telephone, but  
 11 which he promised to share with me later, he  
 12 is asking that Father Adamson continue to work  
 13 in the diocese for another year or  
 14 year-and-a-half. Did you know --  
 15 MR. GEHAN: Counsel, may I just  
 16 interrupt for a second? You don't have to  
 17 read the entire memo. We all have it in front  
 18 of us. If you have a question about the  
 19 memo --  
 20 MR. ANDERSON: I'm just starting the  
 21 question.  
 22 MR. GEHAN: -- in the interests of  
 23 expediting the deposition, I would ask that  
 24 you just ask the question. You don't have to  
 25 read the entire memo.

1 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 2 Q. Did you know that there was conversations  
 3 being had at this time as reflected by what I  
 4 just read?  
 5 A. **No.**  
 6 Q. He then goes on to state that, "He has  
 7 communicated that to Father Adamson." You  
 8 have no memory of that?  
 9 A. **No.**  
 10 Q. Did anybody in the archdiocese, any official  
 11 from the archdiocese, any fellow clergy or  
 12 anybody else from the archdiocese ever ask you  
 13 why you were supposed to and being required to  
 14 continue to work in the Archdiocese of St.  
 15 Paul and Minneapolis?  
 16 A. **No.**  
 17 Q. The last sentence of the paragraph states,  
 18 "Bishop Watters assures me that Father Adamson  
 19 is a good priest who is a victim of a  
 20 situation in Winona and he feels that he would  
 21 be much better off if he were to be outside  
 22 the diocese for at least another year." Do  
 23 you know why -- what is the situation that  
 24 you're a victim of in Winona?  
 25 MR. BRAUN: Objection, foundation,

1 speculation. If you know, you can answer that  
 2 question.  
 3 A. **I don't know.**  
 4 (Discussion out of the hearing of  
 5 the court reporter)  
 6 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 7 Q. Did anyone ask you about this?  
 8 A. **Never saw this before.**  
 9 Q. Did anybody ever ask you if you were a victim  
 10 of a situation and what that situation was --  
 11 A. **No.**  
 12 Q. -- in Winona that caused you to be in the  
 13 archdiocese?  
 14 A. **No.**  
 15 (Discussion out of the hearing of  
 16 the court reporter)  
 17 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 18 Q. In 1976, while you were at St. Boniface and  
 19 assigned there by Bishop Watters -- excuse me,  
 20 by Archbishop Roach, you're aware that Bishop  
 21 Watters received copies of correspondence and  
 22 gave permission for those assignments?  
 23 A. **No. I did not know that.**  
 24 Q. This correspondence that refers to a Father  
 25 Keller. How did you know Father Keller?

1 A. **He was pastor at St. Paul Park when I went**  
 2 **there.**  
 3 Q. And at some point were you required to report  
 4 to him?  
 5 A. **To Father Keller?**  
 6 Q. Yeah.  
 7 A. **Well, I was assigned there, if that's what you**  
 8 **mean by report.**  
 9 Q. Did he ever ask you why you were assigned to  
 10 St. Paul Park and in the archdiocese having  
 11 been a priest of the Diocese of Winona?  
 12 A. **No.**  
 13 Q. Did he ever ask you about your relationship  
 14 with kids and raise questions about it?  
 15 A. **No.**  
 16 Q. Did he ever ask you about why you were  
 17 required to see Pierre?  
 18 A. **I'm not sure he knew that.**  
 19 (Discussion out of the hearing of  
 20 the court reporter)  
 21 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 22 Q. I'm going to show you Exhibit 29. And this is  
 23 dated March 12th, 1979, from Archbishop Roach  
 24 to Father Kennedy. Did you know who Father  
 25 Kennedy was at that time?

1 A. **Yes.**  
 2 Q. Who was he and what was his official  
 3 position?  
 4 A. **I think he was director of priest personnel.**  
 5 Q. And he states, "I would urge you not to put  
 6 Father Adamson in a parish close to the Winona  
 7 diocese." Why was that being urged?  
 8 MR. BRAUN: Objection, foundation.  
 9 A. **I don't know where that was coming from.**  
 10 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 11 Q. He goes on to state -- did anybody ever ask  
 12 you about this?  
 13 A. **Being close -- the personnel board one time,**  
 14 **so I would have contact with the priests of**  
 15 **the Winona diocese, that I would be stationed**  
 16 **as close as possible, that's in a personnel**  
 17 **record somewhere I saw that.**  
 18 Q. And did you become aware that they didn't want  
 19 you even close to the Diocese of Winona  
 20 because of problems you had there --  
 21 A. **No.**  
 22 Q. -- that caused you to be transferred to the  
 23 archdiocese?  
 24 A. **No.**  
 25 (Discussion off the record)

1 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 2 **Q.** Did anyone ever ask you about that?  
 3 **A.** No.  
 4 **Q.** He goes on to state, "It is precisely that  
 5 problem that Bishop Watters is concerned  
 6 about." Do you know what that problem is he's  
 7 referring to here?  
 8 **A.** No.  
 9 MR. BRAUN: Objection, foundation.  
 10 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 11 **Q.** The last sentence states, "Southeastern  
 12 section of the" -- "Southeastern section of  
 13 the Twin Cities may be all right, but I think  
 14 anything in the southern part of our diocese  
 15 will be disturbing to Bishop Watters." Do you  
 16 know why an assignment in that part of the --  
 17 the southern part of the diocese --  
 18 archdiocese would be disturbing to Bishop  
 19 Watters?  
 20 **A.** No.  
 21 MR. BRAUN: Objection, foundation,  
 22 speculation.  
 23 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 24 **Q.** Anyone ever ask you about that in the  
 25 archdiocese?

1 **A.** No.  
 2 MR. ANDERSON: Let's take a break.  
 3 MR. GEHAN: How long?  
 4 MR. LEANN: Off the video record at  
 5 4:20 p.m.  
 6 (Recess taken)  
 7 MR. LEANN: Back on the video record  
 8 at 4:35 p.m.  
 9 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 10 **Q.** I'm going to try to shorten this up. In the  
 11 interests of brevity, I'm going to direct your  
 12 attention to Exhibit A, that is, the Doe list,  
 13 and ask you to look down it and kinda just  
 14 scroll down, and some of these I've asked you  
 15 about and I just want you to look at those  
 16 names, and any of those individuals that you  
 17 did either sexually abuse or attempt to  
 18 sexually abuse, I just want you to put a check  
 19 by their name or use a highlighter.  
 20 **A.** On my list or do you have a list for that?  
 21 **Q.** This is the Doe list, if you look at it, it  
 22 begins with Doe 1. And just go down those  
 23 names and with a highlighter, just highlight  
 24 the names of those individuals who you either  
 25 sexually abused or attempted to sexually abuse

1 while you were a priest.  
 2 MR. WIESER: Is it possible for you  
 3 to call up those that you're highlighting so  
 4 we know --  
 5 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 6 **Q.** Yeah, just say Doe 1 or Doe 5 or whatever the  
 7 Doe number is that you're highlighting.  
 8 **A.** Doe 6, Doe 7, Doe 9, Doe 14, Doe 18, Doe 19,  
 9 Doe 24, Doe 31, Doe 33, Doe 38.  
 10 **Q.** Any other names that you remember or kids  
 11 whose names you remember not on this list who  
 12 you did abuse or attempt to abuse?  
 13 **A.** No.  
 14 **Q.** As I look at this list, is it correct to say  
 15 that every Doe you identified is somebody who  
 16 had -- who you had either got caught or  
 17 reported to have abused?  
 18 **A.** Well, the definitions of abuse are different,  
 19 you know, between attempted and being with  
 20 them and -- and -- and so forth. These people  
 21 I checked are people that I know that there  
 22 was physical sexual contact with.  
 23 **Q.** Okay. And there are others on this list,  
 24 however, where you engaged in some  
 25 inappropriate conduct that --

1 **A.** Yes, there are some names that --  
 2 **Q.** Okay. And then put a check by those with whom  
 3 you engaged in inappropriate conduct when they  
 4 were kids, but you didn't -- you don't  
 5 consider it to be sexual abuse.  
 6 MR. BRAUN: I object as vague.  
 7 Counsel, what do you mean by "inappropriate  
 8 conduct"?  
 9 MR. ANDERSON: He can answer the  
 10 question.  
 11 **A.** I don't know that, either, what -- you know,  
 12 if -- if I was with them or with them alone or  
 13 -- or what is inappropriate in contrast to  
 14 overt sex.  
 15 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 16 **Q.** Okay. Let's talk about kids with whom you  
 17 were alone and you engaged in some conduct  
 18 where there were sexual overtones made by you,  
 19 sexual suggestions or some sexual  
 20 conversation. Check those names. And just  
 21 give us the numbers that you're checking.  
 22 **A.** (Examining documents) Well, I'm not checking  
 23 any of those names.  
 24 **Q.** What about Doe 17?  
 25 **A.** (Examining documents) Well, again, that's the

1 -- what's appropriate or inappropriate? I was  
 2 -- I knew Doe 17 and did gym things with him.  
 3 Q. All right.  
 4 A. **But I never tried to touch him or to do sex**  
 5 **with him.**  
 6 Q. Is it fair to say that there are so many it's  
 7 really hard for you to remember?  
 8 A. **I -- I don't say that.**  
 9 Q. Okay. Have you reviewed any records in  
 10 anticipation of your deposition today?  
 11 A. **The mailings I've had from the various offices**  
 12 **of attorneys, I read those and that's about**  
 13 **all. I haven't gone back to old records. I**  
 14 **don't have many of them, for one thing.**  
 15 Q. Have you looked at any depositions given  
 16 before or documents in your file, for example?  
 17 A. **I don't have hardly anything in my file. I**  
 18 **cleaned that out years ago.**  
 19 Q. Have you reviewed any of the depositions that  
 20 either you gave before or others gave before  
 21 pertaining to this matter?  
 22 A. **I don't have them, for one thing.**  
 23 Q. Okay. So you haven't reviewed them is what  
 24 you're saying?  
 25 A. **Yes.**

1 Q. Okay. At any time, have any officials of the  
 2 Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis, since  
 3 the first lawsuit began against you and them,  
 4 ever counseled you on how to answer these  
 5 questions put to you under oath?  
 6 A. **No one ever.**  
 7 Q. Has anybody ever suggested, any official of  
 8 the archdiocese ever counseled you that it was  
 9 best not to remember the questions put to you?  
 10 A. **No.**  
 11 Q. In 2007, January, I think it was January 2007,  
 12 Mike Finnegan and I visited you in your  
 13 apartment in Eau Claire. You remember that,  
 14 don't you?  
 15 A. **Yes.**  
 16 Q. And we knocked on your door, didn't we?  
 17 A. **Yes.**  
 18 Q. And you asked who was there?  
 19 A. **(Nods head).**  
 20 Q. Correct?  
 21 A. **Yes.**  
 22 Q. And I said, "It's Jeff," and you said, "Jeff  
 23 who?" And I said, "Jeff Anderson" --  
 24 A. **Yes.**  
 25 Q. -- is that correct? And then you answered the

1 door, didn't you?  
 2 A. **Yes.**  
 3 Q. And we had a brief conversation and you  
 4 invited us in, did you not?  
 5 A. **Yes.**  
 6 Q. And then we sat down on your sofa and talked  
 7 to you, didn't we?  
 8 A. **Yes.**  
 9 Q. And I had asked questions about what you were  
 10 doing at that time, didn't I --  
 11 A. **Yes.**  
 12 Q. -- where you were working and --  
 13 A. **Yeah, it was a --**  
 14 Q. -- things like that?  
 15 A. **-- give-and-take conversation.**  
 16 Q. And it was -- it was pretty much the same tone  
 17 of this conversation that's being had,  
 18 correct?  
 19 A. **Somewhat. It was -- it was basically pleasant**  
 20 **till the end.**  
 21 Q. And it became unpleasant when I said I was  
 22 having difficulty believing that you weren't  
 23 still a risk to kids?  
 24 A. **It became difficult when you said I should not**  
 25 **be working at the nursing home and that you**

1 **were going to go to the superiors there and**  
 2 **cost me my job, which was very odious. I'd**  
 3 **been there 22 years.**  
 4 Q. We discussed the fact that there's nobody in  
 5 the community where you were living and  
 6 there's a playground right across the street  
 7 from your apartment, didn't we?  
 8 A. **That isn't even true. There's no playground**  
 9 **across from where I was living.**  
 10 Q. Well, I discussed with you the fact that I was  
 11 concerned that you hadn't gotten help?  
 12 MR. GEHAN: Counsel, what is the  
 13 relevance of this? Is this just you're  
 14 bragging about ambushing my client?  
 15 MR. ANDERSON: Well, I don't have to  
 16 answer your question.  
 17 MR. GEHAN: Well, I object on the  
 18 basis of relevance.  
 19 MR. ANDERSON: He has to answer my  
 20 questions. If you've reviewed the file and  
 21 you understood the contents of this case, you  
 22 would. So I'm going to ask the question.  
 23 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 24 Q. In any case, Mr. Adamson, we did talk about  
 25 the concerns that we had, and we were gonna --

1 what we wanted to do with that, right?

2 **A. Your concerns -- your concerns, as -- as I**

3 **understand it were about the -- my working at**

4 **a nursing home.**

5 **Q.** Okay. I asked you if you were still abusing

6 kids, didn't I?

7 **A. I don't know that. Possibly. I don't**

8 **remember that.**

9 **Q.** And --

10 **A. And I wasn't, if that's --**

11 **Q.** And do you recall indicating to me that you

12 had not been getting any help with that and

13 you weren't getting any treatment?

14 **A. That was true.**

15 **Q.** And I told you I was concerned about that,

16 didn't I?

17 **A. I don't know that.**

18 **Q.** And I told you that I felt in conscience I

19 felt you need to do something about this, that

20 you were living there alone and people didn't

21 know about your history?

22 **A. No one ever came into that apartment before**

23 **you came into it that didn't belong there or**

24 **that was a minor or whatever in all the years**

25 **I lived there.**

1 **Q.** Okay. In any case, I know it became

2 unpleasant for you when I told you I felt I

3 was going to have to do something, didn't it?

4 **A. Terribly unpleasant.**

5 **Q.** And at no time did you or we raise our voices,

6 correct?

7 **A. I don't remember. It was terribly odious, I**

8 **mean -- I mean to add that, and it cost me my**

9 **job. And there was no infractions, not even a**

10 **sour word in my 22 years at that nursing home,**

11 **I never said a cross word to any of those**

12 **residents, ever.**

13 **Q.** Well, let me ask you this, Mr. Adamson. Have

14 you ever spent a day in jail?

15 **A. No.**

16 **Q.** Don't you think you should have?

17 **A. No.**

18 MR. GEHAN: Counsel, what is the

19 relevance of this? You're wasting my time.

20 Can we move this along, please?

21 BY MR. ANDERSON:

22 **Q.** To your knowledge, has any official of the

23 Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis ever

24 reported anything about what they knew you did

25 to kids to any law enforcement official?

1 MR. WIESER: Objection, foundation.

2 If you know.

3 MR. BRAUN: I concur.

4 **A. I don't know anything about that.**

5 **BY MR. ANDERSON:**

6 **Q.** To your knowledge, has any official of the

7 Diocese of Winona ever reported what they knew

8 about what you did to kids as a priest to law

9 enforcement?

10 MR. BRAUN: Objection, foundation.

11 You can answer if you know.

12 **A. I don't know that.**

13 (Discussion out of the hearing of

14 the court reporter)

15 BY MR. ANDERSON:

16 **Q.** In other words, it's correct that you're not

17 aware that any report has ever been made to

18 any law enforcement agency by any official of

19 the Diocese of Winona or the Archdiocese of

20 St. Paul and Minneapolis?

21 **A. We just did that, didn't we?**

22 **Q.** I just have to make sure the answer is clear.

23 Is that correct?

24 **A. Yes.**

25 **Q.** I'm going to show you a list of some other

1 folks and this is going to be under a seal --

2 MR. FINNEGAN: No.

3 MR. ANDERSON: This isn't?

4 MR. FINNEGAN: This is a public

5 list.

6 BY MR. ANDERSON:

7 **Q.** Okay. I'm going to show you an exhibit, I'm

8 just going to ask you some names of some other

9 individuals.

10 MR. GEHAN: Are you going to show us

11 a list?

12 MR. ANDERSON: No. I'm just going

13 to ask the name.

14 MR. GEHAN: Okay.

15 BY MR. ANDERSON:

16 **Q.** Are you familiar with or have any information

17 that Sylvester F. Brown, now deceased, ever

18 sexually abused any youth?

19 **A. Never heard of him.**

20 **Q.** Are you aware if Father Joseph Cashman

21 sexually abused any youth while a priest?

22 **A. I don't know that.**

23 **Q.** Had you ever heard that?

24 **A. Yes.**

25 **Q.** From whom and when?



- 1 **A. Just rumors.**  
 2 **Q.** Okay. From fellow priests?  
 3 **A. Basically.**  
 4 **Q.** When, approximately?  
 5 **A. In the 1970s, I would say vaguely. I don't**  
 6 **know that.**  
 7 (Discussion out of the hearing of  
 8 the court reporter)  
 9 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 10 **Q.** You were still in the Diocese of Winona at  
 11 that time you heard that?  
 12 **A. Yes.**  
 13 **Q.** Louis G. Cook, he's now deceased. Had you  
 14 ever heard any information that he had?  
 15 **A. No.**  
 16 **Q.** William D. Curtis, ever any information you  
 17 ever heard or became aware of that he had  
 18 abused?  
 19 **A. No.**  
 20 **Q.** John Feiten, F-e-i-t-e-n, now deceased, had  
 21 you ever heard --  
 22 **A. I knew him, never heard -- I saw his name on**  
 23 **the list. That he would abuse anyone, no.**  
 24 **Q.** And I'm reading from the list, so --  
 25 **A. Okay.**

- 1 **Q.** Richard H. Hatch, did you ever --  
 2 **A. Rumors years ago. He was let -- he had left**  
 3 **priesthood, I think, before I was ordained.**  
 4 **Q.** And when did you hear the rumors and was  
 5 that --  
 6 **A. In early years, the late '50s.**  
 7 **Q.** And was that from colleague priests that you  
 8 heard that --  
 9 **A. Yes.**  
 10 **Q.** -- spoken? Do you remember what it was, the  
 11 nature of what it was you heard?  
 12 **A. No.**  
 13 **Q.** Any other information pertaining to him and  
 14 potential --  
 15 **A. I never knew him.**  
 16 **Q.** Ferdinand Kaiser, now deceased. Ever get any  
 17 information or hear any rumors or reports  
 18 concerning him abusing?  
 19 **A. No.**  
 20 **Q.** Jack Krough, K-r-o-u-g-h, ever hear any rumors  
 21 or reports of him?  
 22 **A. I never knew him.**  
 23 **Q.** Michael Kuisle, K-u-i-s-l-e, ever --  
 24 **A. Never heard any reports about him.**  
 25 MR. GEHAN: Let him finish his

- 1 question.  
 2 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 3 **Q.** James W. Lemon, anything on him?  
 4 **A. No.**  
 5 **Q.** Leland Smith, anything you ever hear about him  
 6 or have any knowledge of him having abused?  
 7 **A. No.**  
 8 **Q.** Robert H. Taylor, ever hear of him or get any  
 9 reports or hear rumors that he had?  
 10 **A. Yes.**  
 11 **Q.** When did you first?  
 12 **A. 1980s. I don't know.**  
 13 **Q.** And what source?  
 14 **A. Just priests talk.**  
 15 **Q.** And what did you hear them say?  
 16 **A. I think that he approached kids or had college**  
 17 **kids living with him, suspicions, nothing**  
 18 **concrete.**  
 19 **Q.** On how many different occasions did you hear  
 20 information of that kind?  
 21 **A. Don't know.**  
 22 **Q.** Were you still in the Diocese of Winona when  
 23 you heard these conversations?  
 24 **A. Yes.**  
 25 (Discussion out of the hearing of

- 1 the court reporter)  
 2 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 3 **Q.** Did you ever receive any information about  
 4 other priests offending or rumors that they  
 5 had offended children while you were a priest  
 6 in the Diocese of Winona that we haven't  
 7 covered?  
 8 **A. No. You mentioned some names there that I**  
 9 **said yes to, but I don't know any others.**  
 10 **Q.** Did you ever get any reports from any parents,  
 11 any kids or any source that any of your  
 12 colleagues who were clergy may have offended?  
 13 **A. No.**  
 14 **Q.** Did you ever receive any information that one  
 15 of your colleagues at -- I think it was at  
 16 Immaculate Conception, Joseph Wajda, had  
 17 offended?  
 18 **A. I knew that eventually.**  
 19 **Q.** Okay. While you worked with him, did you ever  
 20 receive any reports or suspicions that he had  
 21 some inappropriate conduct with kids?  
 22 **A. I had suspicions.**  
 23 **Q.** What gave -- what rolled your suspicions?  
 24 **A. Because he spent a lotta time with children**  
 25 **and they were -- period.**

- 1 Q. Did he have them coming in the back door of  
2 the rectory?
- 3 A. **Possibly.**
- 4 Q. Did you ever confront him with that?
- 5 A. **No.**
- 6 Q. Did you ever do anything with that?
- 7 A. **I mighta talked to another priest about that.**
- 8 Q. Who would that have been?
- 9 A. **That would be Paul Clashiniak (ph) I think is**  
10 **the right name, who was a senior priest who**  
11 **was living with us at that time, and who had**  
12 **tutored him or -- or been an aide to Wajda.**
- 13 Q. Any other suspicions or information that came  
14 to you that raised suspicions concerning  
15 Wajda?
- 16 A. **Concerning what, please?**
- 17 Q. Concerning Joseph Wajda.
- 18 A. **No.**
- 19 Q. Okay. What about any other priests of the  
20 archdiocese, any other information come to you  
21 or your attention that raised your suspicions  
22 of sexual abuse?
- 23 A. **No.**
- 24 Q. Okay.
- 25 MR. ANDERSON: Hold on a moment.

- 1 (Discussion out of the hearing of  
2 the court reporter)
- 3 MR. ANDERSON: I think that's all I  
4 have. Thank you.
- 5 THE WITNESS: Excuse me?
- 6 MR. ANDERSON: That's all I have.
- 7 EXAMINATION
- 8 BY MR. WIESER:
- 9 Q. Mr. Adamson, I have some questions for you  
10 again just so that we're clear. My name is  
11 Tom Wieser and I represent the Archdiocese of  
12 St. Paul and Minneapolis.
- 13 Is it true that the archdiocese has  
14 not made any arrangements to pay Mr. Gehan for  
15 his appearance here today?
- 16 A. **I don't know of any arrangements they made.**
- 17 MR. ANDERSON: Well, weren't you  
18 claiming a privilege on this when I asked?
- 19 MR. GEHAN: Actually, I think he was  
20 -- you were asking about arrangements he had  
21 with me.
- 22 MR. WIESER: Right.
- 23 MR. GEHAN: That's what I objected  
24 to.
- 25 MR. ANDERSON: Payment arrangements.

- 1 MR. GEHAN: Yeah, but as I  
2 understand it, the question is, was there an  
3 arrangement between me and the archdiocese and  
4 he said he doesn't know or he hasn't heard of  
5 anything.
- 6 MR. ANDERSON: If you want the door  
7 open, that's fine, I'm just saying it's open.
- 8 MR. GEHAN: I -- you can call it  
9 open if you want. I think it's a different  
10 question, but --
- 11 MR. ANDERSON: All right.
- 12 BY MR. WIESER:
- 13 Q. Mr. Adamson, I think that you testified that  
14 you were assigned to St. Thomas Aquinas on  
15 June 1st of 1976. Was that your testimony?
- 16 A. **I think that's accurate.**
- 17 Q. And is it true that taking on an assignment in  
18 June is a common practice?
- 19 A. **Yes.**
- 20 Q. And that's what -- that was the case in 1976,  
21 is that true?
- 22 A. **That's the archdiocese and I was new to that,**  
23 **I think it's true.**
- 24 Q. Had you completed your psychology training at  
25 the University of Minnesota by then?

- 1 A. **I don't think so. I think it was just ending.**  
2 **I think I took my orals and things after that.**  
3 **I'm not sure, Tom.**
- 4 Q. So I'm going to ask you some questions about  
5 that 1976 and 1977 time period, so you're  
6 clear with me about what time period we're  
7 talking about?
- 8 A. **Okay.**
- 9 Q. Before 1976 or 1977, did you tell anyone in  
10 leadership at the Archdiocese of St. Paul and  
11 Minneapolis that you had a sexual attraction  
12 to young males?
- 13 A. **No.**
- 14 Q. Again, with regard to that same time period,  
15 did you tell Archbishop Roach that you had a  
16 sexual attraction to young males?
- 17 A. **No.**
- 18 Q. With regard to the same time period, did you  
19 tell anyone at the archdiocese about reports  
20 in the Diocese of Winona that you had molested  
21 minors?
- 22 A. **No.**
- 23 Q. Same time period. Did you tell Archbishop  
24 Roach that there were reports in the Diocese  
25 of Winona that you had molested minors?

- 1 **A. No.**  
 2 **Q.** Before 1976 or 1977, are you aware of anyone  
 3 from the Diocese of Winona who told anyone in  
 4 leadership at the archdiocese that you had a  
 5 sexual attraction to young males?  
 6 **A. No.**  
 7 **Q.** Again, the same time period, 1976 or 1977 and  
 8 before that, are you aware of anyone from the  
 9 Diocese of Winona who told Archbishop Roach  
 10 that you had a sexual attraction to young  
 11 males?  
 12 **A. No.**  
 13 **Q.** Before 1976 or 1977, are you aware of anyone  
 14 from the Diocese of Winona who told anyone in  
 15 leadership at the archdiocese that you had a  
 16 sexual attraction to young males?  
 17 **A. No.**  
 18 **Q.** Again, the same time period, before 1976 or  
 19 1977, are you aware of anyone from the Diocese  
 20 of Winona who told Archbishop Roach that you  
 21 had a sexual attraction to young males?  
 22 **A. No.**  
 23 **Q.** And do you have any reason to believe that  
 24 Bishop Watters informed Archbishop Roach about  
 25 allegations of sexual abuse against you before

- 1 1976 or 1977?  
 2 **A. No.**  
 3 **MR. WIESER:** That's all the  
 4 questions I have. Thank you.  
 5 **EXAMINATION**  
 6 **BY MR. BRAUN:**  
 7 **Q.** Mr. Adamson, my name is Tom Braun. I  
 8 represent the Diocese of Winona. I just have  
 9 a few questions for you, okay?  
 10 To your knowledge, has the Diocese  
 11 of Winona provided funding for your attorney  
 12 who's present here today?  
 13 **A. No.**  
 14 **Q.** And you gave previous testimony regarding  
 15 loans that had been procured through the  
 16 Diocese of Winona for your attorney's fees.  
 17 Do you remember that testimony?  
 18 **A. Today?**  
 19 **Q.** Yes.  
 20 **A. Yes.**  
 21 **Q.** You had previously borrowed money from the  
 22 Diocese of Winona for legal expenses  
 23 associated with sexual abuse cases, is that  
 24 right?  
 25 **A. Tom, I don't know if "borrow" is the right**

- 1 **word. That never went across my desk or**  
 2 **through my hands, but the Diocese of Winona**  
 3 **paid some of those legal fees.**  
 4 **Q.** All right. Is it your understanding that you  
 5 had to repay those fees back to the Diocese of  
 6 Winona?  
 7 **A. I'm still repaying them.**  
 8 **Q.** Okay. To the best of your knowledge, have any  
 9 of those fees been forgiven or not been  
 10 required by you to be repaid to the Diocese of  
 11 Winona?  
 12 **A. I don't know that.**  
 13 **Q.** Okay. You testified previously about Jim  
 14 Fitzpatrick. When did you first become  
 15 acquainted with Mr. Fitzpatrick?  
 16 **A. Well, I was a few years older than him and we**  
 17 **were both in education things in the diocese**  
 18 **and we were somewhat friends.**  
 19 **Q.** What year do you recall meeting Mr.  
 20 Fitzpatrick, do you recall?  
 21 **A. I was ordained in '58. He was probably**  
 22 **ordained in, I'm just guessing, six years**  
 23 **later, '65, I'll say. I don't know.**  
 24 **Q.** Did you ever serve at the same parish that Mr.  
 25 Fitzpatrick did?

- 1 **A. We served together in Rochester.**  
 2 **Q.** When was that?  
 3 **A. That would have been in the mid-'60s, '65,**  
 4 **'66.**  
 5 **Q.** For how many years did you serve together?  
 6 **A. I think two.**  
 7 **Q.** While you served together, did you reside in  
 8 the same rectory?  
 9 **A. No.**  
 10 **Q.** Where did you live and where did he live?  
 11 **A. I lived at Lourdes rectory and he lived at St.**  
 12 **Pius X rectory.**  
 13 **Q.** Did you consider yourself a friend of Mr.  
 14 Fitzpatrick's during that time?  
 15 **A. Well, he had asked me to do things -- he would**  
 16 **-- he taught at Cotter High School and he**  
 17 **asked me one time to give a whole school**  
 18 **retreat there and, you know, he was sort of in**  
 19 **charge of the religion department. And I gave**  
 20 **that retreat. And he asked me to do a**  
 21 **vocations day at the school for the whole high**  
 22 **school when he was in charge of that, as I**  
 23 **recall, and I did that. So -- and we did some**  
 24 **golf together and the -- the -- the priests,**  
 25 **you know, I would see him fairly frequently.**

1 **We were never close friends, I mean, as --**  
 2 **Q.** Did you socialize with him outside of meetings  
 3 with other priests or outings of other  
 4 priests?  
 5 **A. Never individually. Never the two of us.**  
 6 **Q.** I believe you testified earlier that you were  
 7 in a supervisory role of him, is that right?  
 8 **A. I was head of the religion department at**  
 9 **Lourdes High School and he was a faculty**  
 10 **member there.**  
 11 **Q.** How would you describe that working  
 12 relationship?  
 13 **A. He was a good teacher and simultaneously**  
 14 **obnoxious.**  
 15 **Q.** Why do you say that?  
 16 **A. He just was. He -- he was arrogant,**  
 17 **troublemaker from day one in the diocese.**  
 18 **Q.** Are you aware of any disciplinary actions that  
 19 were brought against Mr. Fitzpatrick while he  
 20 served in the Diocese of Winona?  
 21 **A. Well, I -- I don't know that. I wasn't**  
 22 **involved with the diocese. I -- I told you**  
 23 **the things that went on that -- where I had**  
 24 **nieces and nephews involved and many other**  
 25 **families that I knew that the shenanigans that**

1 **were going on at the parish where he lived.**  
 2 **Q.** Did you ever have any upsetting or difficult  
 3 conversations with Mr. Fitzpatrick?  
 4 **A. No.**  
 5 **Q.** Had he ever confronted you about any alleged  
 6 abuse that he claimed that you perpetrated?  
 7 **A. No.**  
 8 **Q.** Did Bishop Fitzgerald or Bishop -- did Bishop  
 9 Fitzgerald or Bishop Watters ever talk to you  
 10 about any concerns that Mr. Fitzpatrick  
 11 raised?  
 12 **A. Never.**  
 13 MR. BRAUN: I have nothing further.  
 14 MR. GEHAN: No questions.  
 15 RE-EXAMINATION  
 16 BY MR. ANDERSON:  
 17 **Q.** Mr. Adamson, did anyone from the archdiocese,  
 18 any official ever ask you, once you were  
 19 assigned to the archdiocese, whether you had  
 20 sexually molested or were sexually attracted  
 21 to kids?  
 22 **A. Well, when the lawsuits -- when that became**  
 23 **public, I don't know if they asked that or it**  
 24 **was evident or what, I don't recall any**  
 25 **conversations about that.**

1 **Q.** Before the lawsuit was initiated, did any  
 2 official of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and  
 3 Minneapolis ever ask you why you were -- what  
 4 your history was in Winona that caused the  
 5 bishop of Winona to transfer you?  
 6 **A. No.**  
 7 **Q.** Did any official of the archdiocese ever ask  
 8 you at the time you were assigned to St.  
 9 Thomas Aquinas or before whether you had a  
 10 sexual attraction to kids?  
 11 **A. Never.**  
 12 **Q.** Did any of the officials of the archdiocese  
 13 ever ask you if your sexual misconduct towards  
 14 kids had ever been reported to anybody?  
 15 MR. WIESER: Objection to the form  
 16 of the question, assumes facts not in  
 17 evidence.  
 18 **A. Repeat the question, please.**  
 19 **BY MR. ANDERSON:**  
 20 **Q.** Did any official of the archdiocese ever ask  
 21 you about whether -- what the bishop from  
 22 Winona knew about your history with kids?  
 23 **A. No.**  
 24 **Q.** Have you ever met with Tom Wieser to discuss  
 25 your history?

1 **A. Never met Tom Wieser till today.**  
 2 **Q.** Ever met with Andy Eisenzimmer?  
 3 **A. I never met with him privately. I know who he**  
 4 **is.**  
 5 **Q.** Ever have phone conversations with him?  
 6 **A. With Andy?**  
 7 **Q.** Andy Eisenzimmer.  
 8 **A. No. I don't think -- none.**  
 9 **Q.** Okay. Tom Wieser?  
 10 **A. Never had a -- well, I don't think I ever had**  
 11 **a phone conversation with him, no.**  
 12 MR. ANDERSON: That's all I have.  
 13 MR. WIESER: Nothing.  
 14 MR. BRAUN: Nothing further.  
 15 MR. GEHAN: Let's go home.  
 16 MR. LEANN: Off the video record  
 17 5:05 p.m.  
 18  
 19  
 20  
 21  
 22  
 23  
 24  
 25

1 I, THOMAS ADAMSON, do hereby certify that I  
 2 have read the foregoing transcript of my  
 3 deposition and believe the same to be true and  
 4 correct, except as follows: (Noting the page  
 5 number and line number of the change or  
 6 addition and the reason for it)

7  
 8  
 9  
 10  
 11  
 12  
 13  
 14  
 15  
 16  
 17  
 18  
 19  
 20  
 21  
 22  
 23  
 24  
 25

Subscribed to and sworn  
 before me this \_\_\_ day  
 of \_\_\_, 2014.

1 STATE OF MINNESOTA  
 2 COUNTY OF RAMSEY ss

3  
 4 I hereby certify that I reported the  
 5 deposition of THOMAS ADAMSON, on the 16th day  
 6 of May, 2014, in Rochester, Minnesota, and  
 7 that the witness was by me first duly sworn to  
 8 tell the whole truth;

9 That the testimony was transcribed under my  
 10 direction and is a true record of the  
 11 testimony of the witness;

12 That the cost of the original has been charged  
 13 to the party who noticed the deposition, and  
 14 that all parties who ordered copies have been  
 15 charged at the same rate for such copies;

16 That I am not a relative or employee or  
 17 attorney or counsel of any of the parties, or  
 18 a relative or employee of such attorney or  
 19 counsel;

20 That I am not financially interested in the  
 21 action and have no contract with the parties,  
 22 attorneys, or persons with an interest in the  
 23 action that affects or has a substantial  
 24 tendency to affect my impartiality;

25 That the right to read and sign the deposition  
 by the witness was not waived, and a copy was  
 provided to him for his review;

WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL THIS 26th  
 day of May, 2014.

Gary W. Hermes

FROM THE DESK OF  
*Thomas P Adamson*

Box 3034  
Eau Claire WI 54702

October 26, 2003

Most Reverend Bernard J Harrington  
Bishop of Winona  
Box 588  
Winona MN 55987

Dear Bishop Harrington,

Kind greetings from Wisconsin.

Today's scripture readings present a partial picture of what I will attempt to express in this letter: "He is able to deal patiently with the ignorant and erring, for he himself is beset by weakness.....You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek."

At your suggestion, I will list some reasons why I wish to retain the status of an inactive priest. Despite my failings, priesthood has always been a great gift, the best possible treasure. At the center of life as a priest is the privilege to celebrate Mass each day. These days I continue to be a very active and involved person but nothing is as important as the Mass. From seminary days, through ordination and Vatican II, and with John Paul II's recent "Ecclesia de Eucharistia" the Eucharist is the center of Christian life. I believe that.

I do not see Mass as some kind of task that needs to be done but an honor and joy which I choose to share. I never celebrate without preparation, always first reading the daily scriptures and reflecting on at least one commentary. Every person who has ever known me, clergy and laity, knows the importance I give to the Mass and the manner in which I celebrate it. Indeed I miss the dialogue homilies which for years were part of my weekday life.

Next there is the Divine Office. As far as I know, I have never missed the daily praying of the Breviary since I became a sub-deacon over 46 years ago. There were a few times when I would not finish because of illness or travel or a misplaced book, but I would always finish the prayers and catch up the next day. Too late to quit this prayer now.

Finally there is the Rosary. Again, as far as I know, I have not missed praying the Rosary daily since I was a junior in high school. We had family rosary at home but it was also the impetus of my math and science teacher at Lourdes High, Sister Lorenzo, OSF, a real gem. Often she would insert some spiritual tidbits along with the theorems, etc. I memorized both. In a sincere way she would tell us: "There may be days when you cannot attend daily Mass because of war, or illness, or travel, or no priest is available (How did she know that in 1948?). But there will never be a day when you can't pray the Rosary if you want to." She was right!

EXHIBIT 99

It is probably only the genius of a John Paul II who could connect the mystery of Eucharist and Rosary in such a profound way.

There are additional prayers, mostly centered around Scripture. I always make an annual retreat. I experience more prayer with others than one might expect. When we visited this week I shared some brief enthusiasm about my work four afternoons a week in a large nursing home. I did not mention that there are many opportunities to pray with residents and their families. It is often at their request and involves people of all faiths.

Bishop, I hope the above is okay and doesn't sound hyped. Most of it is easy to verify. I think any priest I ever worked with, lived with, or vacationed with, knows where I stand concerning the celebration of Mass, praying the Breviary and the Rosary.

As I told you 15 months ago I still don't fully understand why I was able to make such a mess out of my life. I continue to be sorry for the pain I caused for so many others, especially abuse victims and their families, the priests and the larger church, and my own family. There has been some healing and hopefully it can continue.

When my sexual misconduct was announced in the late 1980's, Archbishop John Roach publicly labled it quite well when he called all of it a "horrible trajedy." He went on to say that with all the people in suffering and pain, there should be some attention to the pain and suffering that Tom Adamson was going through. Of course the media jumped all over that by saying he was more concerned for me than the victims. Eventually Archbp Roach would publicly say that some of the tactics and statements of attorney Jeffrey Anderson were diabolic. Meanwhile I experienced years of heavy pain, lots of tears: for a long time it was mostly a matter of survival.

I think there were some good things in my public ministry as well. Thirty years ago I was the youngest pastor in the Winona Diocese and I was in charge of St Francis which I think at that time was the second largest parish and had the largest school. Over the years I had ample opportunities for leadership roles which were addendums to assigned duties and which likely don't appear in record books, for example the baccalaureates and commencements, the Forty Hours Devotions, and the many Marriage Encounter Weekends (38 of them.)

On Ash Wednesday in 1984 a victim of mine told me he was going public with revelation of my sexual misconduct. Since that day I have made sure that I have never been alone with any minor in any setting whatsoever, not in a reasonable or professional capacity nor in any recreational or social setting at any time. It was not that I was afraid that I might offend again but I realized there could be no compromise, no possible occasion which might be suspect. There have been no exceptions since 1984.

10-26-03  
Page 3

I don't need to write anything further about my failures, my sins, the scandal caused. The whole world knows about it and has been told such over and over.

On final over-all thought on my view of priesthood. Near the motel where I have worked the past 16 years there is a VFW Club. Often after leaving at midnight and also sometimes after golf, I would stop at the VFW for a beer. Across one whole wall in giant capital letters are these words - spaced over three lines:

**"FOR THOSE WHO FOUGHT FOR IT  
FREEDOM HAS A FLAVOR THE  
PROTECTED WILL NEVER KNOW."**

So many times I would reflect and substitute "PRIESTHOOD" for "FREEDOM." Priesthood is worth fighting for, has a genuine extraordinary flavor which those who are not part of it will never know. It becomes even more precious when its exercise is restrained.

Some time between this evening and the next several years the Lord will call me home. I trust he will find a less arrogant man, one more compassionate and more prayerful than he would have found a few decades ago.

Thank you for visitng me, for your kindnesses, and for your continued prayers.

In Our Lord,



Thomas Adamson  
P.O. Box 3034  
Eau Claire, WI 54702-3034



October 9, 2008

Thomas P. Adamson  
Box 3034  
Eau Claire, WI 54702

Dear Tom,

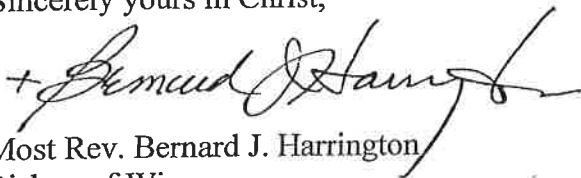
I want to thank you for your discernment following our recent meeting. Though I recognize how difficult our conversation was for you, please know that your apology for the pain caused and the written letter of request for laicization have been received and are much appreciated. You continue to be in my prayers in this ongoing journey.

As discussed during our meeting here at the Pastoral Center, this request for laicization and a final decision from Rome will not be the subject of any type of public announcement. I indicated that our meeting was confidential and those present during our conversation will honor that. Some of your close friends have approached me in this regard, however, and it is important that you understand I cannot be responsible for what they tell others.

Under the Priests Pension Plan you will continue to receive the annual pension agreed upon for Senior Priests. Health and Dental Insurance coverage remains in place as well for the remainder of your life.

The wonderful peace you will find from receiving the sacraments and talking with God is immeasurable. I encourage you to continue to do so and to be faithful to the practice of daily prayer.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Most Rev. Bernard J. Harrington  
Bishop of Winona

EXHIBIT  
100

[unofficial translation]

**CONGREGATION  
FOR THE DOCTRINE  
OF THE FAITH**

*Dispensation from the Obligations of Sacred Ordination*

Prot. no. 835/2004

**Winona**

**Thomas Paul ADAMSON**, a presbyter of this diocese, has humbly requested a dispensation from all the obligations connected to sacred ordination.

---

After considering the report about the case prepared  
by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith

**the Supreme Pontiff, Pope Benedict XVI**

**on March 2, 2009**

assented to the requests of the above-mentioned priest  
for the good of the Church, with the following instructions:

1. The rescript of dispensation must be communicated by the competent ordinary to the petitioner as soon as possible:

- a) It takes effect from the moment of notification;
- b) The rescript inseparably entails a dispensation from sacred celibacy and at the same time loss of the clerical state. The petitioner never has the right to separate these two elements, that is, to accept the first and to refuse the second;
- c) If the petitioner is a religious, though, the rescript also grants a dispensation from vows;
- d) In addition, it also entails an absolution from censures to the extent that this is necessary.

EXHIBIT 101

2. Notification of the dispensation can be made either personally by the ordinary himself or by his delegate, or by an ecclesiastical notary or by registered mail. The ordinary must return one copy duly signed by the petitioner to testify to the reception of the rescript of dispensation and at the same time the acceptance of what it prescribes.

3. Notice of the grant of the dispensation is to be noted in the baptismal register of the petitioner's parish of baptism.

4. Regarding the celebration of a canonical marriage, if the case warrants it, the norms which are established in the Code of Canon Law are to be applied. The ordinary is to take care, though, that steps are taken cautiously without public announcement.

5. The ecclesiastical authority who is responsible for duly communicating the rescript to the petitioner is to earnestly exhort him to participate in the life of the people of God in manner that corresponds with the new condition of his life, to be at the service of its edification, and so to show himself to be an upright son of the Church. At the same time, however, the authority is to inform him of the following:

- a) The dispensed priest, by that very fact, loses the rights, dignities, and ecclesiastical offices proper to the clerical state; he is no longer bound by the other obligations connected with the clerical state;
- b) He remains excluded from the exercise of the sacred ministry, with the exception of what is mentioned in canons 976 and 986, §2. Also, he cannot deliver a homily. He can neither hold a directive office in the pastoral sphere nor exercise the function of parochial administrator;
- c) Likewise, he cannot carry out a role in seminaries and in equivalent institutions. He cannot exercise a directive role in other institutions of higher study which are dependent upon the ecclesiastical authority in any way;
- d) But in other institutions of higher study which are not dependent upon the ecclesiastical authority, he cannot teach any theological discipline;
- e) Moreover, he cannot hold a directive role or teaching position in academic institutions of a lower level which are dependent upon the ecclesiastical authority. The dismissed and dispensed presbyter is bound by the same law with respect to teaching religion in institutes of the same kind which are not dependent upon the ecclesiastical authority.

6. To the extent that it is possible, the ordinary is to take care that the new condition of the dispensed presbyter not give scandal to the faithful. Nevertheless, if there is danger of abusing minors, the ordinary can publicize the fact of the dispensation and the canonical cause.

7. Moreover, at a suitable time, the competent ordinary is to make a brief report to the Congregation about the notification once it has been accomplished; and if there is ever any bewilderment of the faithful, he is to provide a prudent explanation.

Notwithstanding anything whatsoever to the contrary.

From the Offices of the Congregation on March 2, 2009.

William Cardinal LEVADA  
*Prefect*

+ Luis Francisco LADARIA, S.J.  
Titular Archbishop of Thibica  
*Secretary*

Day of Notification \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Presbyter as a Sign of Acceptance | Signature of the Ordinary

February 10, 2012

HAND-DELIVERED

Thomas Adamson  
607 19<sup>th</sup> Street NW, #17  
Rochester, MN 55901

Dear Mr. Adamson:

After I learned that you recently moved to Rochester, Minnesota to live, I contacted you to meet with me and counsel for the Diocese of Winona today, February 10, 2012, to communicate to you our concerns and expectations.

As you know, the Diocese of Winona has received numerous allegations over the past several decades that you committed acts of sexual abuse against minors in and without the diocese. Many of those allegations are credible.

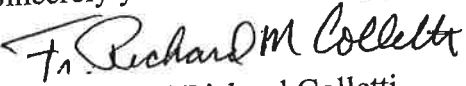
You are also aware that the Diocese of Winona has been sued many times by multiple plaintiffs alleging sexual abuse by you and that we continue to defend claims today involving the sexual abuse of minors by you.

Given your history, we, at the Diocese of Winona, view you as a potential threat to the safety of the children in our schools and in our parishes.

As a result, I have shared with you, and am writing in this letter to confirm, that from this day forward, you will not be welcome or permitted to enter onto the premises of any of the parishes or schools within the Diocese of Winona. Your presence on the premises of any diocesan parish or school hereinafter will be considered harassing and a trespass. If you do not abide by this request to refrain from entering on diocesan property, will be forced to file a restraining order against you. I certainly hope to avoid having to take that course of action.

Your anticipated cooperation regarding this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,



The Reverend Richard Colletti  
Vicar General  
Diocese of Winona

EXHIBIT 102

+

DIOCESE OF WINONA  
55 WEST SANBORN  
WINONA, MINNESOTA 55987

Office of the  
Bishop

FD-35 (Rev. 5-22-64)  
Tel. 5 4444

April 30, 1983

The Reverend Thomas P. Adamson  
Church of the Risen Savior  
1501 East County Road 42  
Burnsville, MN 55337

Dear Father Adamson,

Prayerful congratulations to you as your 25th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood of Jesus Christ approaches!

I hasten to join the members of your wonderful family, your brother priests here in the diocese of Winona and in the Archdiocese, and the many of God's pilgrim people you have served as you give thanks and praise to God for what He has accomplished through your priestly talents and zeal these twentyfive years.

You know that the people you have taught and celebrated the Eucharist and other Sacraments with share my gratitude to you for your priestly commitment. May the Holy Spirit continue to guide and strengthen you as you reach one of the important milestones in the life of every priest. Be assured of a special remembrance on Sunday, May 29th, and Tuesday, May 31, the actual anniversary of your ordination in St. John's, Rochester.

I am very sorry that I won't be able to share in the joy of the celebration the wonderful people of the Church of the Risen Savior are planning for you on May 29th. That happens to be the date of the graduation here at the College of St. Teresa; in addition, I have committed myself to celebrate the Liturgy in Spanish with the migrant at Claremont that day at 6:30 pm. Were it not for these impossible conflict, I would certainly be with you on that important day.

I hope you are enjoying these lovely days of spring. Right now I'm busy preparing for the Chicago meeting on the pastoral. Do ask the Holy Spirit to guide at least some of the bishops and to let the rest of us know who they are. It seems as if many, many amendments are being offered to the 3rd draft. As we both know, it is impossible to please everybody!

With kindest personal greetings, a special blessing for your Silver Jubilee, and a request for your prayers, I remain,

Fraternally in Christ,

*Thomas J. Walters*  
Bishop of Winona

P.S. I've heard that one's golf game improves the second 25 years! It hasn't been true in my case, at least recently. May it be in yours.

ljw

MARCH 16, 1983

CONFIDENTIAL

SPECIAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN ARCHBISHOP ROACH AND REVEREND THOMAS ADAMSON

These are the conditions under which Reverend Thomas Adamson will be allowed to continue to minister in the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis. Reverend Adamson agrees that:

1. He will have no youth contact or contact with youth groups. Any breach of this agreement will be non-negotiable and will mean the immediate suspension of faculties and return to the Winona Diocese.
2. He will not go to Anoka County without Father Korf's permission.
3. He will not be in contact with Immaculate Conception Parish in Columbia Heights without Father Korf's permission.
4. He will continue to have and see a spiritual director.
5. He will continue to talk with Dr. Joseph Gendren and Father Korf and Archbishop Roach have permission to talk with Dr. Gendren.
6. He will be an associate pastor for the foreseeable future.
7. He will continue to see Father Korf on a regular basis. (Every three or four weeks.)

Copies of this agreement will be on file in the Priests Personnel Office, Chancellor's Office, Archbishop Roach's Office, and with Father Adamson.

AGREED TO BY:

Rev Thomas Adamson  
Reverend Thomas Adamson

3-25-83  
Date

John R. Roach  
Archbishop John R. Roach, D.D.

3-27-83  
Date



ARCH-036016

November 25, 1964

Reverend Joseph C. Cashman  
Lourdes High School  
Rochester, Minnesota

Dear Father Cashman,

Owing to the health of Father Adamson, I find it necessary to make a change at Caledonia so that he may be able to receive treatment at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester. I therefore ask you kindly to accept the position of Executive Secretary of the School Board of the Catholic schools of Caledonia with immediate charge of St. Mary's Grade School as well as Loretto High School, effective as of Monday, November 30.

I know that this is rather short notice, but I hope that you may be able to arrange the transfer in sufficient time. I am sure that Father Adamson will help you to orient your thinking in regard to some of the particular problems which I am sure you will be able to meet prudently and wisely.

You will take up residence at St. John's rectory with the position of assistant there, but your actual position will be as Superintendent of St. Mary's Grade School and Loretto High School with responsibility for the execution of the policy of the schools as approved by vote of the administrative board.

You will also have charge of St. Nicholas Church at Freeburg to furnish them with Mass on Sundays and Holydays of obligation as well as First Fridays with the privilege of bination if necessary. The arrangement which was made with Father Adamson will extend to you.

With prayers for your success in this new responsibility, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

cc: Msgr. Alfred Frisch, President of School Board  
Father Thaddeus Dereziński  
Father Donald Leary



JC000240



STATEMENT

SERVICE

FEE

TEST  
DATE

4-30-74

Psychological evaluation requested by Francis A. Tyce, M.D.  
for Fr. Thomas Adamson.

\$35.00

Submitted by

*John R. Hawkinson, Ph.D.*  
John R. Hawkinson, Ph.D.  
730 Northern Heights Drive  
Rochester, Minnesota 55901

# 22365  
5/28/74



Adamson 00009

MINUTES OF THE 81st MEETING OF THE PERSONNEL BOARD, DIOCESE OF WINONA

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Trocinski at 12:29 1/2 p.m., May 20, 1974 at St. John's in Rochester. Bishop Watters led us in prayer. All members present. Monsignor Edward Klein came at 12:54 p.m.

From Tom Adamson is having a recurring problem. He may go to an institute in the East and may have to be replaced at St. Francis. Jim Russell is available to go to St. Francis or replace the one who would go there.



May 21, 1975

The Reverend Thomas P. Adamson  
The Church of Saint Leo  
2050 Bohlund Avenue  
St. Paul, MN

Dear Father Adamson,

The grace and peace of God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you!

Thanks for the progress report. It is easy to understand why you are trying to resolve the question about a Specialist Certificate in Counseling and the remaining requirements before you make any decisions. I hope that you receive the reply you feel will be helpful and that something satisfactory can be worked out with Bishop Roach. As you know, I am more than willing to help in any way I can, especially in regard to Bishop Roach.

As for considering the request to join a team to give occasional Marriage Encounters in the diocese of Winona, it is my conviction that at this time and for the immediate future you should decline the invitation. And this for something like the reason I asked Father Flola not to become involved in a similar project in the Cities; obviously, there is a great difference in the two cases, but the similarity lies in that our lay people are easily confused, even when they shouldn't be. I know you are appreciative of this pastoral consideration.

As the ordinations approach all of us are doubling our prayers for the young men who will be ordained deacon, and Joe Fogal who will become a priest of Jesus Christ on Friday of this week. All of us need the special help of the Holy Spirit as we continue to try to become saints in that very demanding ministry, the pastoral care of God's people.

I hope you are enjoying this "early" summer; I haven't found time to tour a golf course as yet, but I am not going to give up hope. Perhaps we can play nine this summer; 18 might be too much for me.

With kindest personal greetings to you and Father Dolan and a request for your prayers, I remain

Fraternally in Christ

Bishop of Winona

EXHIBIT

17

Adamson 00033

(  
CONFIDENTIAL  
)

DATE: January 26, 1976

MEMO TO: Father John Kinney

FROM: Archbishop Roach

SUBJECT: Father Thomas Adamson

I received a call from Bishop Loras Watters on January 23 concerning Father Thomas Adamson. Father Adamson's period of residence and work in the diocese was to have been completed this January. For reasons which Bishop Watters was unwilling to discuss on the telephone, but which he promised to share with me later, he is asking that Father Adamson continue to work in the diocese for another year or year and a half. He has communicated that to Father Adamson. Bishop Watters is now asking if we will provide a working situation for him. Bishop Watters assures me that Father Adamson is a good priest, who is a victim of a situation in Winona and he feels that he would be much better off if he were to be outside the diocese for at least another year.

Father Adamson may very well call you before I return, or may very well call me for an appointment. I would like to discuss this with you on my return and I would suggest that we keep it between ourselves, rather than sharing it with the Personnel Board, at least until I have an opportunity to talk to you.

I would recommend that we assist Father Adamson during this period. I assured Bishop Watters that I would be glad to talk to him as soon as I had a chance to do so.



Adamson 11680

March 12, 1979

Father Kennedy

Archbishop Roach

I would urge you not to put Father Tom Adamson in a parish close to the Winona Diocese. It is precisely that problem that Bishop Watters is concerned about. Southeastern section of the Twin Cities may be all right but I think anything in the southern part of our diocese would be disturbing to Bishop Watters.







