					3
	1		1		then spell your last name for us, please?
1			2	Α.	My name is Peter Michael Richards. My last
2			3		name is spelled R-I-C-H-A-R-D-S.
3	STATEMENT UNDER OATH of FATHER PETER RICHARDS, taken before Sandra Fellows,		4	Q.	And what's your date of birth, Father
4	a Notary Public in and for the County of		00:00:19 5		Richards?
6	Ramsey, at 11300 Frankfort Parkway Northeast,		6	Α.	10-28-1966.
7	in the city of St. Michael, state of		7	Q.	And then, ordination, tell me when that was
8	Minnesota, commencing at approximately 10:00		8		and if you were ordained for a priest here in
9	a.m., December 4, 2014.)		9		the archdiocese or how that went?
10			00:00:34 10	Α.	I was ordained for the Archdiocese of St.
11			11		Paul-Minneapolis on May 30, 1998.
12			12	Q.	And it's my understanding that that you've
14			13		had or did have some association with the
15			14		Companions of Christ.
16			00:00:57 15	Α.	I do.
17			16	Q.	Tell me how you got involved with that and
18			17		when you got it involved with that?
19	AFFILIATED COURT REPORTERS 2935 OLD HIGHWAY 8		18	A.	
20	ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55113 (612) 338-4348		19		Outreach and, basically, the person was Kevin
21			00:01:11 20		Finnegan, who led the Companions of Christ
23			21		originally, started Companions of Christ.
24			21		And I began with them in doing St. Paul's
25			22		Outreach had a summer household program. And
			23		I I think it was in 1990, I did a summer
			00:01:35 25		household with the Companions of Christ, so
			00:01:35 23		
1	2 APPEARANCES:		1		4 they were associated with at the time, it
2	MICHAEL FINNEGAN		2		wasn't officially a fraternity of priests,
3	Jeff Anderson and Associates		- 3		but we were headed in that direction. And
4	366 Jackson Street		4		when I I wasn't certain I was joining I
5	Suite 100		00:01:55 5		was going to go into the priesthood at that
6	St. Paul, Minnesota 55101		6 G		time, but I'd say three years later I talked
	St. Paul, Milliesola 55101		7		to Father Jeff Huard, who was the leader or
7	DAVE BJERGA		8		they called him the
	Office of Ministerial Standards		9	Q.	The superior, maybe?
9			00:02:17 10	Q. A.	
10	and Safe Environment		11	Α.	started my association with the companions,
11	226 Summit Avenue		12		which went through the seminary into
12	St. Paul, Minnesota 55102		12		priesthood.
13	(Original transcript to Mr. Finnegan.) * * *		14	Q.	Are you still associated with the companions?
14			00:02:38 15	Q. A.	Yes, I am.
15	PROCEEDINGS		00:02:38 15	_	,
16	(Witness Sworn.)			Q.	And background wise, if you can, from
17	FATHER PETER RICHARDS,		17		ordination until today, can you tell me what
18	called as a witness, being first duly sworn,		18		parishes you've been in and what your
19	was examined and testified as follows:		19		position has been?
20	EXAMINATION		00:02:53 20	Α.	• •
21	BY MR. FINNEGAN:		21		Church in Burnsville from 1998 June, I
	2. Father, my name is Mike Finnegan. I		22		think, 1998 until June of 2001. I, for three
23	introduced myself before we got on the record		23		months was it three months, or so, I
24	and told you a little bit about the process.		24		studied I went to study Spanish in
00:00:08 25	To start, could you state your full name and)200 1 -	00:03:22 25		Cuernavaca, Mexico. And then I received my 12/04/2014 10:34:57 P
· OF / Choole	P	aue I U	0 - 0 - 00		12/07/2017 10.04.J/ F

			5				7
	1		next assignment as pastor in September of		1 (2	Yeah.
							Decided we needed some new blood.
	2		2001, at St. Albert's in Albertville. And in 2004, it was roughly June, I also became				How many priests are there that are in the
	3				4	.	companions here locally? Ballpark again.
4			pastor at St. John's the Baptist in Dayton.		5		Just out of my own curiosity.
00:04:03 5			And then in August of 2009, I became pastor		-	۵	17, 18.
	6	~	here at St. Michael.				I want to shift focus and talk about Michael
7		ω.	Was the first parish that you had at Mary,		, , 8	ц.	Keating. And so if you can, just to start,
	8		Mother, you were an associate there?		9		tell me how you got to know him, ballpark
00:04:28 10			Correct, yes.	00:08:07 1	-		around when you met him, just kind of
00:04:28 TC		ц.	And then when you had St. John the Baptist in Dayton, was that at the same time you're	1			background stuff on him, when you met him.
12			pastor at St. Albert's in Albertville?			Δ	So Michael Keating was he came to the
12		٨		1		~ .	Companions of Christ from the Servants of the
14		А.	Correct, yeah. Those six years were		4		Word in Michigan, Ann Arbor, and I was I
		^	simultaneous.	00:08:33			believe at the time I first met him, I was
00:04:49 15		ω.	At any point, since you were ordained in	1			maybe third or fourth year seminarian. When
16			1998, have you had any official assignments,				he came to I think he I can't remember
17			positions in the archdiocese? Chancery, on	1			if he started to study for the archdiocese as
19			any type of boards, anything like that? Personnel board.		9		a Companions of Christ or he spent a year
00:05:02 20		A.	Well, I was the dean of our deanery and,	00:08:59 2			I think, yeah. He spent a year working on
00:05:02 20		А.	therefore, I was a member of the Presbyterial	2			his doctorate on church history, I think it
22			Council and that was for I think that was		2		was.
23			a year-and-a-half. I did two year-and-a-half	-	3		So, actually, when he first came, I
24	-		stints, because I filled out I filled out	1	4		spent a lot of time with him, because he was
00:05:20 25			guys who had left for other deaneries and	00:09:15 2			always around at our residence on 2137
00.05.20			6				8
1	1		you want dates for that?		1		Marshall Avenue.
	2	Q.	No. That's okay. Any other assignments?		2 (Q.	Were you living at 2137 Marshall Avenue at
	3		I also did some spiritual direction. I was a		3		that time?
4	4		what would you call it adjunct		4	A.	Yes.
00:05:42	5		spiritual director for St. John Vianney	00:09:30	5	Q.	And Michael Keating, living there as well?
6	6		Seminary. I haven't done that for over a		6	A.	He was. So that would have been, date wise,
7	7		year now. What else? Nothing official, but		7		1996, '97.
6	8		other than I mean, I have teaching parish		8	Q.	Roughly, how long did you live at the same
9	9		seminarians. I've had teaching parish		9		place as Keating?
00:06:09 10	0		seminarians. Been to the St. Paul Seminary a	00:09:49 1	0	A.	I think it was a year. So I would have been
11	1		few times for that. I think that's it.	1	1		ordained it was roughly a year. I'd
12	2	Q.	What about with the companions, have you had	1	2		ordained and then moved to Shakopee for my
13	3		any official positions there?	1	3		assignment in Burnsville.
14	4	Α.	Well, I was on the each of our I was on	1	4	Q.	Once you had moved to the assignment in
00:06:36 15	5		the Superiors Council, so, I guess, I was	00:10:19 1	5		Burnsville, what was your what were your
16	6		I guess I was secretary. I think I was	1	6		interactions like with Keating, just time
17	7		secretary for a while.	1	7		wise, and how often were you seeing him?
18	8	Q.	How long were you on the Superiors Council,	1	8	Α.	
19	9		ballpark?	1	9		wasn't more than our regular Companions of
00:07:04 20	0	Α.	Let's see, a long time.	00:10:42 2	20		Christ gatherings, which I can go into those
21	1	Q.	What do you remember or a guess?	2	!1		if you want.
22	2	Α.	I think 1998 I think it was right from the	2	22	Q.	Yeah. Tell me just I don't know much
23	3		beginning. 1998, until from the beginning	2	23		about it.
24	4		of my ordination, until just a year ago, so,	2	24	Α.	
00:07:31 25	5		yeah, 13 years almost.	00:10:55 2	25		together, all of the companions. Our annual

			9		_	11
	1		conference, so that's a week-long deal. A	1		what had come to light regarding Marie. And
	2		week-long conference. Our retreat, once a	2	2	then I did I can't remember if it was
	3		year as well, which is about a week long.	3	3	before or after that, I got to I met with
	4		So, yeah, so that would I can't remember	4	1	him and I wanted to know I wanted to ask
00:11:32	5		whether I do know that he came to every	00:15:07 5	5	him point blank if this was true and so I
	6		one of those things. I don't remember how	e	6	did. And I don't remember if he said it was
	7		many, you know, until I was ordained.	7	7	true. We didn't get into details, but he
	8		The next I became much more	8	3	did I said, well, I remember saying to
	9		involved with him once he was ordained,	9	9	him, you know, where's your humility. Why
00:11:49 1	0		because he was my spiritual director for a	00:15:41)	don't you come clean with this. And he said
1	1		while.	11	1	I asked for forgiveness. I asked Jeff Huard
1	2	Q.	When did that start?	12	2	and I asked Marie for forgiveness. And that
1	3	Α.	That started, I believe it was, in his first	13	3	was his that was his response to humility.
1	4		year of ordination and I'm going to say that	14	1	I was thinking, you know I was thinking
00:12:05 1	5		was roughly 2003. Probably in the fall,	00:16:06 15	5	you have to pay the public consequences for
1	6		beginning of the fall of 2003.	16	6	this too. Or you have to come clean
1	7	Q.	I think it's 2002 just	17	7	publicly.
1	8		MR. BJERGA: That's the record I	18	B (2. That was part of the and still is part of
1	9		have, too, Mike, 2002.	19	Э	the companions, one of their core beliefs,
00:12:22 2	20		BY MR. FINNEGAN:	00:16:25 20	כ	isn't it, to speak truth and live in the
2	21	Q.	So 2002. So he's ordained and then fairly	21	1	light, is how I've heard it?
2	22		shortly after that he becomes your spiritual	22	2 A	A. Correct, yes. That's part of our rule that
2	23		director?	23	3	we should be open to our brother companions
2	24	Α.	Yes. I asked him to be my spiritual	24	4	when we receive fraternal correction from
00:12:35 2	25		director.	00:16:45 2	5	each other. Yes.
			10			12
	1	Q.	How long was he your spiritual director?		1 0	Let me take you back a little bit and I'll
	2	Α.	Roughly, a year.	:	2	walk through some of this. Tell me what you
	3	Q.	How often did you see him?	:	3	remember about how you got the information
	4	Α.	I saw him roughly once a month.	4	4	how you first got it about Marie? Was that
00:12:53	5	Q.	What about after that or actually, was it	00:17:01	5	through Jeff Huard? Or how did that come to
	6		so that would be around the 2002-2003		6	you?
	7		timeframe?	-	7 F	A. It seems to me it was during a Superiors
	8	Α.	Uh-huh.	8	8	Council. And all I can remember is just
	9	Q.	Is that a yes?	9	9	stating not just what happened with Marie,
00:13:16 1	0	Α.	Sorry. Yes. That's 2002-2003 timeframe.	00:17:25 10	0	but some of the history. Because Michael had
1	1	Q.	So tell me, after that, what your involvement	1 [.]	1	been in Rome for a while and after the I
1	2		is with him?	1:	2	believe it was after what happened with
1	13	Α.	After that, well, it stopped. I stopped	1:	3	Marie, because he was corresponding with her,
1	4		going to him for spiritual direction when I	14	4	and then some of the things that happened in
00:13:35 1	15		found out the information about Marie and his	00:17:47 1	5	Rome with a young lady there. So it seems to
1	16		involvement with Marie. And so from there it	10	6	me it happened in the context of a Superiors
1	17		was my involvement with him was I can't	17	7	Council meeting as an FYI to so we weren't
1	8		remember if he was still coming to things,	11	8	expected to do anything. I wasn't expected
	19		but it would have been just our regular	19	9	to do anything about it, but just to be aware
00:14:13 2	20		meeting times as companions.	00:18:16 2	0	of it.
	21		And there was one time I met with	2.	1 (2. And the information that came to you about
2	22		him and it was Bill Baer, Father Bill Baer,	2	2	Marie at that point, what was the nature of
2	23		now Bishop Cousins. I can't remember if	2:	3	what was being said that Father Keating had
2	24		Father Jeff Huard was there. But this was	24	4	done?
00:14:39 2	25		to, basically, confront him on what he had	00:18:30 2	5 A	A. It was in the context of his relationship
			Page 9 to			12/04/2014 10:34:57 P

		13			15
1		with the Spehars. That he the nature of	1		three-year assignment or not, but the
2		it was, you know, I can just tell you the	2		information came it seems to me, it came
3		details what he did. Was that he had one	3		when he was starting his assignment at St.
4		of the things I remember was that he had	4		Thomas, University of St. Thomas. So if that
00:19:04 5		asked he gave Marie a back rub underneath	00:22:53 5		was 2006
6		her shirt. That he had I don't know if	6		MR. BJERGA: 5.
7		this is exactly right, you know, but what I	7		BY MR. FINNEGAN:
8		remember is that he had driven with her. She	8	Q.	Looks like 5.
9		was just learning to drive at the time. And	9	Α.	2005, so it was a two-year stint. So the
00:19:32 10		she said he had her sit on his lap and I	00:23:04 10		information would have come to me then after
11		just remember seeing some of the some of	11		 after the beginning of his assignment at
12		the e-mails were very romantic. Indicated a	12		so it would have been roughly, you know,
13		romantic it was that was a little	13		late so he began his assignment at St.
14		sketchy, because he was telling her her	14		Thomas in 2005.
00:20:06 15		beauty talking to her about her beauty.	00:23:24 15	Q.	I have the date that he's starting there, at
16		And I could see how in some circumstances	16		least, one of the letters, as 8-1-2005.
17		that would be okay, probably not with a	17	Α.	So I think that would have been roughly the
18		teenage girl, I would never do that. So in	18		time that I got the information.
19		that sense it was inappropriate. So the	19	Q.	So if we call it sometime in the late summer
00:20:34 20		writing and then there was a picture of him	00:23:46 20		of 2005, that's probably around the time?
21		in his bathrobe on the couch and Marie	21	Α.	That's right, yes.
22		resting next to him. And that's all I	22	Q.	At the initial time at the Superiors Council
23		remember. I remember seeing a video of Marie	23		when you got the information about Marie that
24		and the effects of that on her and she said	24		you just described, was Keating at
00:21:04 25		things there that I can't remember happened.	00:24:13 25		that meeting?
		14			16
1		I can't remember what she said happened.	1	Α.	No.
2	Q.	And at that time, was it your understanding,	2	Q.	And then sometime after that is when you have
3		Father, that taking the totality of what you	3		the confrontation of Keating with the group;
4		remember what was being said that there was	4		is that right?
00:21:17 5		an allegation of something inappropriate and	00:24:21 5	Α.	Correct.
6		something of a sexual nature that happened?	6	Q.	Tell me about that confrontation. It sounded
7	Α.	Yes, from my understanding.	7		like there's Father Bill Baer was there at
8	Q.	And this was this information was made	8		the time, Father Andrew Cousins, now Bishop
9		known to you around the time of either in	9		Cousins, and you said possibly Father Huard;
00:21:38 10		that Superiors Council meeting or shortly	00:24:37 10		is that correct?
11		around that time?	11	Α.	Yes.
12	Α.	Yes.	12	Q.	And Keating was there as well, right?
		Do you remember, ballpark, I know you wrote	13	Α.	Uh-huh, yes.
13	Q.	Do you remember, banpark, r know you wrote			
13 14	Q.	down something there, but do you remember	14	Q.	Was that at the house on Marshall?
	Q.	-		Q. A.	
14	Q. A.	down something there, but do you remember	14		
14 00:21:52 15		down something there, but do you remember when that was, approximately?	14 00:24:45 15	A.	That was at the St. Thomas Center For
14 00:21:52 16		down something there, but do you remember when that was, approximately? That would have been so if I was meeting	14 00:24:45 15 16	A.	That was at the St. Thomas Center For Catholic Studies in a conference room there.
14 ^{00:21:52} 15 16 17		down something there, but do you remember when that was, approximately? That would have been so if I was meeting with him for spiritual direction 2002-2003,	14 00:24:45 15 16 17	A.	That was at the St. Thomas Center For Catholic Studies in a conference room there. And timing wise, this would have been
14 00:21:52 15 16 17 18		down something there, but do you remember when that was, approximately? That would have been so if I was meeting with him for spiritual direction 2002-2003, ballpark, you know, summer latter part of	14 00:24:45 15 16 17 18	A. Q.	That was at the St. Thomas Center For Catholic Studies in a conference room there. And timing wise, this would have been Keating was already at St. Thomas then?
14 00:21:52 16 17 18 19	Α.	down something there, but do you remember when that was, approximately? That would have been so if I was meeting with him for spiritual direction 2002-2003, ballpark, you know, summer latter part of 2003, my recollection.	14 00:24:45 16 17 18 19	A. Q. A.	That was at the St. Thomas Center For Catholic Studies in a conference room there. And timing wise, this would have been Keating was already at St. Thomas then? Yes.
14 00:21:52 16 17 18 19 00:22:12 20	A. Q.	down something there, but do you remember when that was, approximately? That would have been so if I was meeting with him for spiritual direction 2002-2003, ballpark, you know, summer latter part of 2003, my recollection. At the time of the first Superior	14 00:24:45 15 16 17 18 19 00:25:06 20	A. Q. A.	That was at the St. Thomas Center For Catholic Studies in a conference room there. And timing wise, this would have been Keating was already at St. Thomas then? Yes. Tell me what happens in that meeting, if you
14 00:21:52 16 17 18 19 00:22:12 20 21	А. Q. А.	down something there, but do you remember when that was, approximately? That would have been so if I was meeting with him for spiritual direction 2002-2003, ballpark, you know, summer latter part of 2003, my recollection. At the time of the first Superior Actually, no.	14 00:24:45 15 16 17 18 19 00:25:06 20 21	A. Q. A. Q.	That was at the St. Thomas Center For Catholic Studies in a conference room there. And timing wise, this would have been Keating was already at St. Thomas then? Yes. Tell me what happens in that meeting, if you can.
14 00:21:52 16 17 18 19 00:22:12 20 21 22	A. Q. A. Q.	down something there, but do you remember when that was, approximately? That would have been so if I was meeting with him for spiritual direction 2002-2003, ballpark, you know, summer latter part of 2003, my recollection. At the time of the first Superior Actually, no. Okay.	14 00:24:45 15 16 17 18 19 00:25:06 20 21 22	A. Q. A. Q.	That was at the St. Thomas Center For Catholic Studies in a conference room there. And timing wise, this would have been Keating was already at St. Thomas then? Yes. Tell me what happens in that meeting, if you can. I can't remember if we went through all of

		17			19
1		came away from the meeting thinking he's not	1		well, he's not going to do any more. And so
2		he's not admitting this. He wasn't	2		that is when I think the movement came from
- 3		coming, one way or the other, about the	3		we now need to take this away from companions
4		information we had on what happened. So he	4		and put it in the hands of the archdiocese.
00:26:02 5		wasn't denying it and he wasn't confirming	00:29:26 5	Q.	And who at the companions at that point was
6		it.	6		in charge of doing that?
8 7	Q.		7	Α.	I think it was Father Cousins, at the time
8	G .	there wasn't anything that Father Keating	8		Father Cousins. Yeah, because Jeff Huard was
9		said or did that you know, he wasn't	9		the superior and we felt, you know, since
00:26:22 10		saying at all that I absolutely deny this, I	00:29:46 10		Marie was his niece that we would take that
11		didn't do this, this is false, anything like	11		off
12		wasn't said; is that right? Do you remember?	12	Q.	Somebody that that would make sense.
12	Α.		13		Try and be a little more objective.
13	~ .	must have if he would have said it was	14		And at the time of the first meeting and then
00:26:48 15		false, then I would never have asked him if	00:30:18 15		the confrontation and then when you met with
00:26:48 15		this happened. I would never have usked mining	16		Keating on your own, all those times it was
10		that. So I don't I don't remember whether	17		your understanding that when this happened
17		or not he said this is false, but I followed	18		between Keating and Marie, she was a minor,
10		up on that meeting and I said, look, you're	19		she was a kid, right?
00:27:06 20		my spiritual director and I want to know	00:30:31 20	Α.	Correct.
00:27:06 20 21		whether this is true or not.	21	Q.	Tell me about what you learned about the
21	0	What was his response when you asked him	22	ч.	woman, girl from Italy, do you remember?
	Q.		23	Α.	What I remember is that he'd spent some time
23 24		that? When I asked him that, what I remember is he	24	7.4	alone with a young woman from Italy. I
24 00:27:22 25	Α.	said but I asked for forgiveness. He	00:31:04 25		believe he was tutoring her for a family
00:27:22 23		18	00.01.04		20
1		didn't he did not admit anything and he	1		there. And he'd spent I can't remember
2		didn't deny anything. He said I asked for	2		the content of the tutoring. But the
3		forgiveness.	3		inappropriate thing was that he had had a
4	Q.	What was your take away from that?	4		it was a passionate encounter. It was a
00:27:44 5	α. Α.	My take away from that was that he did do	00:31:34 5		passionate hug and kiss. And I did I must
6		those things. That he did do those things.	6		have heard it from him, from Michael, too,
7		But he'd asked for forgiveness for him and	7		that explaining that that that was
, 8		then it should be it should be over. We	8		entirely her initiation and he was taken off
9		should move on from this. That was my take	9		quard by it. I remember, too, one of it
00:28:00 10		away.	00:32:09 10		might have been Father Cousins saying that
11	Q.	At the meeting when you, Father Bear, now	11		Peter Laird saw him in Rome, too, with this
12	ц.	Bishop Cousins confronted Keating, what was	12		young lady on his arm. Or a young lady.
13		the what was the end of that as far as	13		Whether it was the same one, I don't
14		after the confrontation, what was anticipated	14		remember. And he was Peter Laird was
00:28:25 15		or said what was going to be done? Where was	00:32:28 15		concerned about that, if we knew.
16 III		the process left at that point?	16	Q.	When you got the information about this girl
10	A.	Yeah. It was I got the impression that	17		from Italy, was it your understanding that
		this was to see that this meeting was to	18		she was a minor as well? That she was under
		-	19		18?
18		see whether or not Michael was doind to do	1		
18 19		see whether or not Michael was going to do anything more to rectify or to reconcile or	00:32:41 20	Α.	Yes.
18 19 00:28:40 20		anything more to rectify or to reconcile or	00:32:41 20 21	A. Q.	
18 19 00:28:40 20 21		anything more to rectify or to reconcile or to get we felt that he had a problem. He		_	
18 19 00:28:40 21 22		anything more to rectify or to reconcile or to get we felt that he had a problem. He had a psychological or, you know, given the	21	_	Did you ever have any discussions with Bishop Cousins?
18 19 00:28:40 20 21		anything more to rectify or to reconcile or to get we felt that he had a problem. He	21 22	Q.	Did you ever have any discussions with Bishop

		21			23
1		young lady from Italy came to Michael	1	_	Before that, yeah.
2		Keating's ordination, and Marie was there	2	Q.	And then was there a process where the
3		with met her as well, and Marie said to	3		companions either asked him to leave the
4		her are you in love with him too. I remember	4		companions or he resigned from the
00:33:31 5		that.	00:37:12 5		companions? How did that fit into all of
6	Q.	And she's, age wise, somewhat similar to	6		this?
7		Marie's age?	7	Α.	Yes. There was I don't remember exactly,
8	Α.	Similar to Marie's age.	8		but I believe we talked about it a few times
9	Q.	Besides the time of the confrontation that	9		in our Superior Council, I believe. It might
00:33:48 10		you had at St. Thomas with the companions and	00:37:44 10		have been outside of that, but it seems to
11		then the time when you personally directly	11		me that it was a decision based upon advising
12		confronted Keating, were there any other	12		based upon a discussion within the council
13		times you were present when he was asked	13		that we just couldn't go on with this in the
14		about the accusations?	14		air and that it seems to me it was either
00:34:03 15	Α.	No. Not that I remember.	00:38:25 15		Father Jeff Huard or Father Michael Keating
16	Q.	Where were you when you confronted Father	16		and it came down to Father Michael Keating
17		Keating yourself?	17		that wanted to leave. But it wasn't very
18	Α.	We were walking down by the Mississippi River	18		it was just one of it might have been
19		Boulevard on the Mississippi River	19		Father Cousins that talked to him and gave
00:34:28 20		Boulevard, half bike path, walking-biking	00:38:46 20		him a decision, it seems to me. Michael
21		path, so it was around the St. Paul	21		could make a decision. And, no, maybe it was
22		Seminarian, down that way.	22		yeah, he said he was going to leave before
23	Q.	And that was just you and him, correct?	23		we even said anything.
24	Α.	Correct.	24	Q.	Okay.
00:34:56 25	Q.	Do you remember anything else that he said,	00:39:07 25	Α.	Yeah, he was going to step away. But that
		22			24
1		besides asking that he said that he had	1		was our discussion and
2		asked Father Huard and Marie for forgiveness?	2	Q.	And he hasn't had any involvement with the
3	Α.	Just that I remember when I when I said,	3		companions since; is that right?
4		well, where's your humility, he became very	4	Α.	No. Not officially. I mean, I've seen him
00:35:17 5		defensive and louder, audibly louder. I	00:39:29 5		and I've had chit-chat with him. I actually
6		don't remember exactly what he said, but the	6		helped you know, even while he was still
7		general impression was I need to hang onto my	7		still had his faculties as a priest, I
8		priesthood. You know, this is the	8		think I had him up one time to say mass at
9		priesthood, this is my life. He didn't use	9		St. John the Baptist to help me. Maybe that
00:35:46 10		those words exactly, but	00:39:59 10		was after the archdiocesan investigation and
11	Q.	That was your take away?	11		decision. So it's, you know, very surface
12	Α.	That was my take away.	12		and nothing official with companions, no.
13	Q.	And how did that conversation and walk with	13	Q.	Did you ever have any discussions with Father
14		him, how did that end?	14		Cousins, then Father Cousins, about what his
00:35:56 15	Α.	I just remember it was doubtful. I remember	00:40:25 15		take away was from the confrontation and any
16		saying I don't know, I don't know what to do,	16		interactions he had with Michael Keating?
17		Michael, so I don't know where to go from	17	Α.	Not directly. I mean, did I ever have any
18		here. So I think that was I can't	18		conversations with him. I don't recall
19		remember if the spiritual direction	19		talking to him directly other than just in
00:36:23 20		relationship ended there or it was before	00:40:45 20		the group of the Superiors Council. Let's
21		that. I think it was before that. I'm	21		see. I remember him talking about his I
22		pretty sure it was. That's all I remember.	22		remember him talking about his discussions
23		I don't remember saying I can't see you for	23		with Michael. I don't remember I don't
24		spiritual direction anymore so.	24		remember what exactly. It was in the course
00:36:47 25	Q.	•	00:41:23 25		of all of this information coming to light,
12/04/201			to 24 of 30		6 of 12 shee

			1		
		25			27
		what do we do. What do we ask him to do.			something I read far down the line, so more
2	_	Things like that.	2	-	recently.
3	Q.	With Father Cousins in charge of that	3	Q.	Did Father Kevin McDonough or anyone else
4		investigation, did he have any meetings or	4		from the archdiocese ever interview you
00:41:42 5		one-on-ones with Keating that you're aware	00:45:13 5		before today about what happened, what you
6	_	of?	6		knew?
7	Α.	I believe he did. I don't remember how many.	7	Α.	
8	_	Will you repeat the question?	8	Q.	5 /
9	Q.	Yes. Within the investigation, did you	9		companions, did you get to know Marie Spehar
00:41:59 10		become aware that Father Cousins, then Father	00:45:37 10		and her family?
11		Cousins, had individual meetings with Father	11	Α.	I didn't get to know them. They came to our
12		Keating as part of that process where he was	12		house a few times at the Marshall house and
13		interviewing him and talking to him?	13		spent time with Father Huard. And I think
14	Α.	Yeah, I did. I had the impression that he	14		one time they may have so I was in and
00:42:20 15		did talk to him. Once it was turned over to	00:46:00 15		out. I wasn't spending time with them. I
16		the archdiocese, I don't think he did, but he	16		think one time they came to one of our a
17		may have. It'd make sense that he did since	17		social we had and so I did, you know, talk
18		he knew so much.	18		with them.
19	Q.	From some of the documents I've seen, was it	19	Q.	It sounds like nothing too in-depth for you
00:42:33 20		your understanding that Father Cousins, that	00:46:21 20		personally?
21		he believed that something inappropriate	21	Α.	Acquaintances, yeah.
22		happened with Marie and the girl in Rome?	22	Q.	Let me look over some of these notes here.
23	Α.	Yes.	23		Why don't we go off, if we can?
24	Q.	Have you talked to Father Keating at all	24		(At this time a recess was taken.)
00:42:52 25		since Marie's allegations became public last	00:46:31 25		BY MR. FINNEGAN:
		26			28
1		fall?	1	Q.	We're back on the record here. You'll have
2		No.	2		the ability to see this statement and read
3	Q.	Then as part of the, I'll call it, the	3		through it. We'll make sure that you get
4		companions investigation, that part of the	4		that, either Dave or myself. We'll
00:43:13 5		process, besides the girl in Rome and Marie,	00:52:58 5		facilitate you getting that. And I
6		was there some other information that came	6		appreciate you being here.
7		out through that about Father Keating's time	7		Okay. Thanks.
8		with the Servants of the Word?	8	Q.	We're done on that.
9	Α.	Yes. And I don't remember exactly. All I	9		(The Statement Under Oath concluded
00:43:34 10		remember is that there was another there	10		at approximately 10:55 a.m.)
11		was another woman and that well, all I can	11		
12		say there is that I heard that the Servants	12		
13		of the Word released Michael from his	13		
14		commitment there and that was because of his	14		
00:44:04 15		relationships with women. That there's	15		
16		something inappropriate there.	16		
17	Q.	Who was involved, if you know, with getting	17		
18		the information from the Servants of the	18		
19		Word? I'm assuming it's not you, but, I	19		
00:44:29 20		guess I should ask: Was it you?	20		
21	Α.	No. It's not me. I don't know. I don't	21		
22		know. It could have been I remember it	22		
23		could have been Father Huard, it could have	23		
24		been Father Cousins. I was going to say	24		
00:44:51 25		McDonough, Kevin McDonough, but that was	25		
7 of 12 shee	ts	Page 25 t	o 28 of 30		12/04/2014 10:34:57 PM

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1	CERTIFICATE
2	I, Sandra K. Fellows, hereby
3	certify that I am qualified as a verbatim
4	shorthand reporter, that I took in
5	stenographic shorthand the foregoing
6	Statement Under Oath of Father Peter
7	Richards, at the time and place aforesaid,
8	and that the foregoing transcript consisting
9	of 30 pages is a true and correct, full and
10	complete transcription of said shorthand
11	notes, to the best of my ability.
12	Dated at Roseville, Minnesota,
13	this 4th day of December, 2014.
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	30
1	SIGNATURE PAGE
1 2	SIGNATURE PAGE I, FATHER PETER RICHARDS, the
2 3	I, FATHER PETER RICHARDS, the deponent, hereby certify that I have read the
2 3 4	I, FATHER PETER RICHARDS, the deponent, hereby certify that I have read the foregoing transcript and made the following
2 3 4 5 6	I, FATHER PETER RICHARDS, the deponent, hereby certify that I have read the
2 3 4 5 6 7	I, FATHER PETER RICHARDS, the deponent, hereby certify that I have read the foregoing transcript and made the following changes:
2 3 4 5 6	I, FATHER PETER RICHARDS, the deponent, hereby certify that I have read the foregoing transcript and made the following changes:
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	I, FATHER PETER RICHARDS, the deponent, hereby certify that I have read the foregoing transcript and made the following changes:
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	I, FATHER PETER RICHARDS, the deponent, hereby certify that I have read the foregoing transcript and made the following changes:
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	I, FATHER PETER RICHARDS, the deponent, hereby certify that I have read the foregoing transcript and made the following changes:
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	I, FATHER PETER RICHARDS, the deponent, hereby certify that I have read the foregoing transcript and made the following changes:
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	I, FATHER PETER RICHARDS, the deponent, hereby certify that I have read the foregoing transcript and made the following changes:
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	I, FATHER PETER RICHARDS, the deponent, hereby certify that I have read the foregoing transcript and made the following changes:
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	I, FATHER PETER RICHARDS, the deponent, hereby certify that I have read the foregoing transcript and made the following changes:
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	I, FATHER PETER RICHARDS, the deponent, hereby certify that I have read the foregoing transcript and made the following changes: PAGE: LINE: CHANGE:
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	I, FATHER PETER RICHARDS, the deponent, hereby certify that I have read the foregoing transcript and made the following changes: PAGE: LINE: CHANGE: FATHER PETER RICHARDS Witness my hand and seal this day of, Notary Public