

MEMORANDUM

TO: Father Richard Eckroth, O.S.B.
FROM: Abbot Timothy Kelly, O.S.B.
RE: St Luke entry date
DATE: October 26, 1993

Delia Manning called today to say your tentative entry date would be late December or early January so that you will have time to recover from your surgery. She will call me around December 1 to confirm the date.

[REDACTED]

December 28, 1993

She left a voice mail message on Brother Kelly's phone which he passed on to me. I received the message when I returned from a meeting in the cities. I called her back at c. 10:15 p.m. and talked until c. 10:30 p.m. at [REDACTED] son, [REDACTED] would like to meet with me sometime in late January or in February. I gave her the dates I will be away (January 23 to February 1; February 4 to 8, 1994).

She asked me about Dan Ward's letter cutting off the negotiations concerning [REDACTED] retirement. She told me they are beginning to feel like victims themselves. I told her that all talk about the case has to be between the lawyers now since [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] have become part of the suit. She indicated that the lawyer had raised the subject about their names being included, but left me with the impression that she didn't know what the implications of this would be. I didn't explain other than to say that she should talk with their lawyer who could explain to them that since their names are now included all negotiations would have to be between lawyers.

OSB2567

OSB ECKROTH 00733

St. John Chrysostom Parish
Fresh Creek
Andros, Bahamas
January 13, 1994

Dear Abbot Timothy,

Thank you for returning my call concerning Father Richard. I was getting mixed messages and I felt that Father Richard was not being told that he would not be returning. Thank you for setting me straight.

After talking with you I wrote to Father and, as gently as I could, suggested that he ask one of his brother priests to pack his personal belongings to be sent to Nassau and that I would send him directly anything he needed or wanted right away. I also asked him to give us an outline of what he planned to do to finish the building at Behring Point so that we could gradually work at it according to his plan.

It is difficult without a resident priest, however, Fathers Silvan and Fintan have been wonderful. As Fr. Silvan has worked here before and knows our island life, he has been very helpful. Fr. Mel has come only once so far, but I expect he will be coming again.

The people here are constantly asking about Father Richard and how he is doing with his therapy etc. Prayers are always being offered for him. He is missed.

Thank you again for helping me know where I stand in the midst of all of this.

In Christ,

Sister Mary Melick

OSB ECKROTH_00253



Saint Luke Institute

February 8, 1994

CONFIDENTIAL

Rev. Richard Eckroth, OSB
St. John's Abbey
P.O. Box 2015
Collegeville, Minnesota 56321

Dear Father Eckroth:

We look forward to your arrival on February 16, 1994. To facilitate your entry into Saint Luke Institute, we would like for you to know the following:

1. If any medications are needed, they will be prescribed here and administered at our medical clinic. Therefore, we ask that you not bring any over-the-counter medications or vitamins and only a small supply of prescribed medications which will be turned over to our clinic. Also, anything which has an alcohol content cannot be used by any patient here. Therefore, we ask that you not bring any cologne, perfume, mouthwash, or over-the-counter product which has any form of alcohol as a listed ingredient.
2. Transportation will be provided, therefore please do not bring your car to the institute.
3. Because you will be exercising at least twice a week, we recommend bringing a bathing suit and suitable leisure attire (for instance: shorts, sports shirts, jogging attire, and sneakers or casual shoes).
4. If you use a special pillow because of allergies, please bring the pillow to be used while a resident at Saint Luke Institute.
5. Because of the duration of the program, it is important to bring enough seasonal clothing.

Page 2

6. Because this is a hospital, we have a controlled diet with no caffeine and no sugar.
7. For your protection, and the protection of the resident community, the contents of your personal belongings will be reviewed upon your admission.
8. Please plan on arriving at Saint Luke Institute by noon to allow for the processing involved in your admittance.

Again, we look forward to your arrival on February 16th. Please inform Bonnie Connor, Coordinator of Admissions (301) 420-7395, of your travel plans. She will arrange transportation for you from the airport. If there are any problems when you arrive at the airport, please call our main hospital number, (301) 967-3700, and the receptionist will help you. Our entire staff wishes you well as you begin the program.

Sincerely,



Bonnie Connor
Coordinator of Admissions

cc: ✓ Right Rev. Timothy T. Kelly, OSB

OSB ECKROTH_00257

ATTORNEY-CLIENT/WORK PRODUCT

OSB ECKROTH_00258

ATTORNEY-CLIENT/WORK PRODUCT

OSB ECKROTH_00259

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

This Memorandum of Agreement records the agreement of assistance offered and provided by St. John's Abbey to _____ and _____ or payment of counseling. The parties agree that this memorandum and the past and future payment for counseling are not admissions of any wrongful act by St. John's Abbey, its related organizations or any of its members and are not admissible as evidence of liability or fault against St. John's Abbey, its related organizations or any of its members in any legal action.

1. St. John's Abbey will pay for previously unpaid counseling fees owing to _____, for services to date, in the amount of \$ _____.
2. St. John's Abbey will pay for _____ and _____ individual and marriage counseling for a period of one additional year ending February 12, 1995 in an amount not to exceed \$1,000.00.
3. All billing should be sent direct to:

Abbot
Box 2015
St. John's Abbey
Collegeville, MN 56321

Dated:

St. John's Abbey _____

by _____
Its Abbot

STIPULATION AND RELEASE

and the Order of Saint Benedict (hereinafter "the parties") stipulate and agree as follows:

WHEREAS

1. and of the Order of Saint Benedict and alleged ~~has~~ sustained psychological, emotional, and other injuries as a result of certain events ~~occurring to his children~~; and *involving them*
2. The Order of Saint Benedict has denied legal liability for any damages to members of their family; and
3. is requested that the Order of Saint Benedict pay for on-going counseling and therapy plus support until his proposed retirement date of January 1, 1995; and
4. The Order of Saint Benedict wishes to pay for reasonable therapy and counseling expenses incurred by and other members of his family and to provide support until his proposed retirement date of January 1, 1995.

that they have

THEREFORE, the parties agree and stipulate as follows:

1. shall continue Order of Saint Benedict on leave with full pay until January 1, 1995. As with full pay, he shall be eligible for all employee benefits except as noted below.
2. agrees that he shall retire on January 1, 1995, from all employment with the Order of Saint Benedict. Upon retirement, shall be eligible for all health benefits and accumulated sick leave given to an employee retiring at the same participation level as other employees with accumulated seniority.
3. agrees not to make any claims against the Order of Saint Benedict for or . He shall be eligible to apply for medical disability. If receives medical disability, the financial terms of this Agreement shall terminate and new terms shall be negotiated in accord with the provisions of the medical disability.

- 4. Neither this Agreement or the fact of payment shall be admissible at trial for any purposes.
- 5. _____ expressly intend and agree that this Agreement includes a Release of all their claims arising from incidents involving their children and monks of the Order of Saint Benedict, including but not limited to, claims for known, unknown, latent, developed and undeveloped injuries; anticipated and unanticipated consequences, and known and unknown developments of such injuries; and claims as respect the nature extent and permanency of any of such injuries.
- 5. The Parties agree that the existence of this Agreement and its terms and conditions are to be held in strict confidence. _____ and _____ agree not to disclose the existence of this Agreement, its terms and conditions to any individual, except to their attorneys, accountants, tax consultants, state and federal tax authorities or as may be required by law; and the Order of Saint Benedict also agrees not to disclose the existence of this agreement except as is necessary to their accountants, auditors, state and federal tax authorities, their managers, officers and board of directors, or board of trustees, insurers, attorneys or as may be required by law or in defense of the Order or its members from any claim, suit or other legal action initiated by the children or their spouses of _____

Dated: _____

Subscribed and sworn to before me this ____ day of _____, 19____.

Dated THE ORDER OF SAINT BENEDICT
 by _____
 Timothy Kelly
 President

SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY

BOX 2015

COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA 56321-2015

OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

February 9, 1994

Sister Mary Miller
St John Chrysostom Parish
Fresh Creek
Andros, BAHAMAS

Dear Sister Mary:

It has been some months now since my trip to the Bahamas and much has happened in the meantime. I've been away from the abbey quite a bit lately, to do a visitation at one of the U.S. abbeys and just now to the annual abbots' meeting, this year in Atchison, Kansas.

Your work on Andros is certainly appreciated by the people there, I am assured, and I know how good it would be to have the supportive presence of a priest. I am glad that those from St Augustine's are still able to go there weekends and their long stay in the Bahamas surely gives them the kind of familiarity with the people and the situation that can help to continue a strong faith there. In God's own ways the faith will go on and we can trust in that.

Father Richard is recovering nicely from his hip surgery and is doing well. As I mentioned on the phone, it is very unlikely that he will be returning to the Bahamas so whatever plans need to be made for the future should be made without the expectation of his return.

Thank you for your continued interest in the work there and your prayers for Father Richard and for the abbey. I ask God to continue to bless you and let you be a blessing to the people with whom you work for many years to come. Peace.

Sincerely in Christ,



Abbot Timothy Kelly, O.S.B.

TK/kr

PHONE 612 363-2544 [REDACTED] FAX 612 363-3082

OSB ECKROTH_00252

SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY

February 16, 1994

Dear [REDACTED]

It would be good if we could arrange a meeting sometime in the near future when you are in central Minnesota. With at least a hint of warmer weather in the area here, travel seems less of a problem than it would have a few weeks ago. I can look out the window and see at least a bit less snow after the last few spring-like days.

I am hoping that you are finding the therapy with Dr. Gibson going well. One of the issues that I would be interested in exploring with you during our meeting is how the therapy is going and what you feel will be the extent of your therapy needs after a few months.

I am sure that this time has been a most painful one for the two of you. I surely hope that you are beginning to find some peace and joy in your life again. One of my own strongest beliefs in times of pain and trial is that God will bring good even out of the pain and suffering that I am experiencing. I hope that you too are finding some such relief in your pain and that soon you may be able to get on with your lives in a joyful way.

My telephone number at St. John's is 612-363-2546. During the day, my secretary, Brother Kelly Ryan, would be able to set up an appointment, even if I do not happen to be in my office. If neither of us should be in at the time you call, you could leave a message on the answering machine and I will get back to you as soon as possible.

Since I am leaving to visit our Japanese monastery in early March, it would be wonderful if we could plan the meeting before my departure.

Sincerely yours,

Abbot Timothy Kelly, O.S.B.
St. John's Abbey



Saint Luke Institute

Confidential

February 18, 1994

Timothy T. Kelly, OSB
Abbot
St. John's Abbey
P.O. Box 2015
Collegeville, MN 56321

Re: Reverend Richard Eckroth
SLI #12814
Admission Date: 2/16/94

Dear Abbot Kelly:

With this letter I would like to inform you that Father Richard Eckroth has arrived at Saint Luke Institute and is adapting to the Inpatient Program. Also, as the Director of the Inpatient Department I would like to welcome you as the concerned recipient of the progress reports of Father Eckroth's treatment and introduce some of the staff who will be working with him.

Frank Valcour, MD is the monitoring psychiatrist and Mr. Richard Bakker, MA, CCDC, CPC is Father Eckroth's individual therapist. Mr. Bakker will coordinate Father Eckroth's treatment and will correspond with you monthly regarding the progress he is making during his stay at the Saint Luke Institute. Please feel free to contact Mr. Bakker if you have any questions about his treatment progress. Father Eckroth's length of stay will be approximately seven months.

Please be assured of our prayers for you and for the fine work you do in the service of Christ's Church,

Sincerely,

Curtis C. Bryant, SJ, PhD
Director, Inpatient Clinical Services

CB/ng

cc: Reverend Richard Eckroth

SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY

BOX 2015

COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA 56321-2015

OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

February 21, 1994

Dear [REDACTED]

In the past Father Daniel Ward has been in contact with you concerning matters of great concern to you and to us. Recently, he was named administrator of an abbey in the southern part of the United States. However, in his absence I do not want to lose quality contact with you and look forward to a time when we will be able to meet together.

There have been hints of milder and maybe even warmer weather on the way which might mean better traveling conditions as well. In talking with [REDACTED] I know you have had some thoughts of coming to Minnesota and I do hope that when you do we will be able to sit and talk for a time. You have been seeing Dr. Gibson and it is my hope that this is going well. One of the issues I would like to address with you is how this is going and what you feel will be the extent of your therapy needs after a few months.

My telephone number at St John's is 612-363-2546. During the day, my secretary, Brother Kelly Ryan, would be able to set up an appointment, even if I do not happen to be in my office. If neither of us should be in at the time you call, you could leave a message on the answering machine and I will get back to you as soon as possible.

Since I am leaving to visit our Japanese monastery on March 10, it would be good if we could plan the meeting before my departure.

Sincerely in Christ,

Abbot Timothy Kelly, O.S.B.

TK/kr

PHONE 612-363-2544

FAX 612-363-3082

OSB2564

OSB ECKROTH 00735

SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY

BOX 2015

COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA 56321-2015

OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

February 28, 1994

Father Richard Eckroth, O.S.B.
Saint Luke Institute
2420 Brooks Drive
Suitland, Maryland 20746-5294

Dear Father Richard:

Just thought I'd drop a line and let you know you are deep in my thoughts and prayers with the hope that the process is going well. With all of the ice and snow in the Washington area of late I'm not sure how you are getting outside, but perhaps by now spring is on the way there and the snows of Minnesota are only a memory.

Tuesday, tomorrow, begins the visitation here and it will continue until March 8. On the 10th I head off to Taiwan and then to Japan. I'll see Cyprian Weaver in Taipei and then meet Kieran Nolan for a short trip to Hokaido, then back to Tokyo to visit the brethren there. I'll be in Asia only 12 days this time, a fast trip with lots of travel while there and likely to be somewhat tiring. But I do look forward to what the Lord is doing with us there and that makes it all worthwhile.

Let me know how things are going. I'm interested. This is certain to be at least a different Lent for you but one that leads all the way to a resurrection of peaceful calm. Believe it, even if it doesn't seem so clear right now. You are held in esteem here because of your generosity and I look forward to your return with a new vision of the freedom that is really you and yours.

Peace and every good blessing.

Sincerely in Christ,



Abbot Timothy Kelly, O.S.B.

TK/kr

PHONE 612 363-2544 [REDACTED] FAX 612 363-3082

OSB ECKROTH_00254

SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY

St. Luke Institute
2420 Brooks Drive
Suitland, Maryland 20746

Dear Father Abbot,

Your letter of February 28th reached me today, and I am very grateful to you for it, for the continued support and concern you expressed in it. It was two weeks ago today that I arrived at St. Luke's, and already I am not the newest patient here, for three, no four other patients have already arrived since my arrival. When I came there was still a lot of snow and ice on the ground, but that disappeared with a few warm days; but yesterday a new storm has blown in. Everything today is white and icy, just like my last view of Minnesota. All the schools in this area were again closed, and wisely so with the roads so icy and dangerous. The schools here had already lost 8 days to the earlier snows, and the schools have cancelled all holidays, even the traditional Easter break. This does not affect our program at St. Luke's except for the few staff people who are not able to get in.

YOU ASK HOW things are going. I feel they are going well enough. I have been very warmly received by the staff and fellow patients and am finding it easier and easier to share my own problems. I marvel at the confident manner in which the patients share their problems, making it all the easier for a new one like myself to open myself. We go out to various Addition gatherings in Washington just about every night of the week, and here we get the experience of lay men and women sharing their problems and supporting one another by their love and concern. Some of the initial classes also help me to share my story with the group and identify with the other members of the class as they present themselves. Thanks for this opportunity for me to know myself better; and I expect to come out of this experience a better person and a better monk.

Have a nice trip to the confreres in the orient,

Richard, OSB

COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA 56321-2015

April 28, 1994, 3:33 P.M.

██████████ called Abbot Timothy to ask if there had been another case against Father Cosmas. I told her an allegation had been made but that as far as I know nothing came of it and that it was determined there was no case. She was upset because we hadn't told her or ██████████ about this. My response was that allegations do not make a case and since nothing came of it it would appear to me that these allegations did not develop into a case. She thought it was settled out of court. My only knowledge of it is that the lawyers know about it and I have no knowledge of whether there was any settlement out of court and as far as I know there wasn't since there was no case. I told her the lawyers know all about this and they are the ones who will have to explain what it all means since I was not involved in any of this when it was going on.

TK

OSB2568

OSB ECKROTH 00736

SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY

BOX 2015

COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA 56321-2015

OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

April 30, 1994

Dear

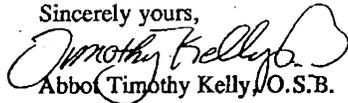
I was away from the Abbey for ten days and before that was quite busy so I have not been able to write to you again.

Ordinarily, when a certain point in therapy payments has been reached, I ask those concerned to come to some agreement with me about the continuation of payment for therapy, based on the signing of an agreement between the Abbey and the people receiving therapy. As of today, if my records are correct, we have paid \$5125.00 for your therapy.

I would be happy to meet with you to discuss what you see as your therapy needs and to have you sign off on an agreement that we would come to about any future therapy needs you may have.

The Abbey will continue to pay for therapy needs you may have until May 15, 1994, even without this agreement. Following that date, we will be returning any bills we receive to your therapist.

Sincerely yours,



Abbot Timothy Kelly, O.S.B.

cc: Dr. Sarah M. Gibson, PsyD

PHONE 612 363-2544  FAX 612 363-3082

OSB ECKROTH_00264

SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY

BOX 2015

COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA 56321-2015

OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

April 30, 1994

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

I was away from the Abbey for ten days and before that was quite busy so I have not been able to write to you again.

Ordinarily, when a certain point in therapy payments has been reached, I ask those concerned to come to some agreement with me about the continuation of payment for therapy, based on the signing of an agreement between the Abbey and the people receiving therapy. As of today, if my records are correct, we have paid \$5125.00 for your therapy.

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The Abbey will continue to pay for therapy needs you may have until May 15, 1994, even without this agreement. Following that date, we will be returning any bills we receive to your therapist.

Sincerely yours,


Abbot Timothy Kelly, O.S.B.

cc: Dr. Sarah M. Gibson, PsyD

PHONE 612 363-2544 [REDACTED] FAX 612 363-3082

OSB2563

OSB ECKROTH 00737

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

This Memorandum of Agreement records the agreement of assistance offered and provided by St. John's Abbey to [redacted] and [redacted] for payment of counseling. The parties agree that this Memorandum and the past and future payment for counseling are not admissions of any wrongful act by St. John's Abbey, its related organizations or any of its members and are not admissible as evidence of liability or fault against St. John's Abbey, its related organizations or any of its members in any legal action.

1. St. John's Abbey will pay for previously unpaid counseling fees owing to [redacted] for services to date, in the amount of \$ [redacted].
2. St. John's Abbey will pay for [redacted] and [redacted] individual and marriage counseling for a period of one additional year ending February 12, 1995 in an amount not to exceed \$1,000.00.
3. All billing should be sent direct to:

Abbot
Box 2015
St. John's Abbey
Collegeville, MN 56321

Dated:

St. John's Abbey

by [redacted]
Its Abbot



Saint Luke Institute

May 19, 1994

CONFIDENTIAL

Abbot Timothy T. Kelly, OSB
Abbot
St. John's Abbey
PO Box 2015
Collegeville, MN 56321

Re: Reverend Richard Eckroth
SLI No: 12814
Admission Date: 2-16-94
Discharge Date: 5-9-94

Dear Father Abbot:

Thank you for your responsiveness and visit on May 9, 1994. We appreciated the opportunity to discuss with you in detail the circumstances around Father Eckroth's treatment and termination of treatment. As you know, we worked with Father Eckroth for nearly three months, but decided to end his treatment when it was determined that there was essentially no change regarding the psychosexual issues for which he was admitted into treatment.

To recapitulate, two separate allegations of sexual misconduct seemed to warrant treatment. Father Eckroth claimed to have no memory of such sexual activity, but agreed to explore these issues in treatment. As treatment progressed, Father Eckroth became more and more certain that the activities described in the allegations were never perpetrated by him. In addition, there did not seem to be any sense that he was hiding anything from us in his disclosure of sexual activity over the course of his life. Third, you reported to us that there were no other allegations or even insinuations that Father Eckroth may have been sexually inappropriate in the years preceding or following the times when these activities described in the allegations were said to have occurred. Psychological testing, psychotherapy did not reveal any defensiveness or personality characteristics that would raise doubts in our minds as to Father Eckroth's veracity.

Some conflicting information came in the form of a penile plethysmograph which indicated that Father Eckroth's sexual attractions were both immature and not well understood by himself. Father Eckroth's sexual immaturity was also noted in the

Abbot Timothy T. Kelly, OSB
Re: Reverend Richard Eckroth - SLI No: 12814

May 19, 1994
Page 2

course of his therapy at Saint Luke Institute. These factors, along with the facts of his inappropriately taking nude saunas with young boys suggest that it would be wise to avoid risks by making certain that Father Eckroth is not assigned to work with any youth, and is specifically prohibited from assuming any role with youth or associating privately with minors.

We believe that Father Eckroth did benefit from his time in treatment at Saint Luke Institute, but that the issues for which he was admitted were not treated because there was no admission of this kind of activity. Should further evidence surface or Father Eckroth come to acknowledge that this activity did occur, then treatment probably should be resumed.

Father Eckroth did write a contract for himself and you received a copy of it during your visit. Since treatment was not completed, we did not specify any continuing care program with Saint Luke Institute, but Father Eckroth did include clauses for his development for support systems and appropriate adult relationships as a resident of the Abbey. We believe that the terms of the contract that Father Eckroth wrote are appropriate to his circumstances, and we hope that the provisions of this contract may be implemented with your support and encouragement. The terms do provide for certain safeguards as well as items which would promote Father Eckroth's growth and well-being.

We thank you for allowing us the opportunity to work with Father Eckroth. Rest assured of our continuing prayers for you and for the work you do in Christ's Church.

301 422-5420
Frank Valcour
Director

Sincerely,

Richard Bakker
Richard Bakker, MA, CCDG, CPC
Primary Therapist

Curtis C. Bryant
Curtis C. Bryant, SJ/PhD
Director, Inpatient Clinical Services

Frank Valcour
Frank Valcour, MD
Medical Director and
Vice-President for Medical Affairs

RB/ng
cc: Reverend Richard Eckroth

OSB ECKROTH_00266

REINHARDT & ANDERSON

Attorneys at Law

E-1000 First National Bank Building
332 Minnesota Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101
Office: 612/227-9990 Fax: 612/297-6543

Jeffrey R. Anderson*†
Mark Reinhardt**
Mark A. Wendorf*
Thomas C. Racette
Joanne Jirik Mullen
Karen A. Kugler
Teresa K. Patton††
Sara Madsen
Harvey H. Eckart
David S. Bureson
Barbara J. Felt
Gavin S. Wilkinson

June 14, 1994

Father Richard Eckroth
St. John's Abbey
Collegeville, Minnesota

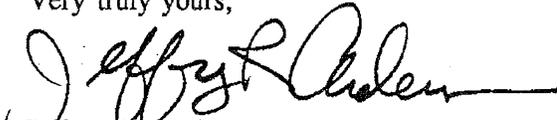
Re: John Doe 10A vs. The Order of St. Benedict of the Roman Catholic Church, a/k/a
St. John's Abbey, Diocese of St. Cloud, St. Augustine's Church in St. Cloud,
Minnesota and Father Richard Eckroth

Dear Father Eckroth:

Enclosed and personally served upon you please find the Summons and Complaint regarding
the above-referenced matter.

For your information, Plaintiff identified as John Doe 10A is

Very truly yours,


Jeffrey R. Anderson

JRA:irb
Enc.

†Certified as Civil Trial Specialist

*Also admitted in Wisconsin

**Also admitted in Washington, D.C.

††Also admitted in California and Colorado

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF STEARNS

DISTRICT COURT
SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

John Doe 10A,

SUMMONS

Plaintiff,

vs.

Court File No. _____

The Order of St. Benedict of the Roman
Catholic Church, a/k/a St. John's
Abbey and Father Richard Eckroth,

Defendants.

THE STATE OF MINNESOTA TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to serve upon Plaintiff's attorney an Answer to the Complaint which is herewith served upon you within twenty (20) days after service of this Summons upon you, exclusive of the day of service.

If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

Dated: 6/14/94

REINHARDT AND ANDERSON


By: Jeffrey R. Anderson, #2057

Karen A. Kugler, #220462
Attorneys for Plaintiff
E-1400 First Natl Bank Bldg.
332 Minnesota Street
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
(612) 227-9990

By: Gregory Walz, #183891
Attorney for Plaintiff
925 South First Street
St. Cloud, MN 56302
(612) 253-3700

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF STEARNS

DISTRICT COURT
SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

John Doe 10A,

Plaintiff,

COMPLAINT

vs.

Court File No. _____

The Order of St. Benedict of the Roman
Catholic Church, a/k/a St. John's
Abbey and Father Richard Eckroth,

Defendants.

Plaintiff, for his cause of action against defendants alleges that:

PARTIES

1. Plaintiff John Doe 10A, whose identity is made known to defendants by separate cover letter, is an adult male resident of the State of Iowa. Plaintiff John Doe 10A was a minor resident of the state of Minnesota at the time of all sexual abuse and sexual exploitation alleged herein.

2. At all times material, defendant The Order of St. Benedict of the Roman Catholic Church, a/k/a St. John's Abbey (hereinafter "Order"), a Roman Catholic religious order of priests, was and continues to be a non-profit religious organization authorized to conduct business and conducting business in the State of Minnesota with its principle place of business at St. John's Abbey, Collegeville, Minnesota.

3. At all times material, defendant Father Richard Eckroth was a Roman Catholic priest, educated by, ordained in and under the direct supervision, authority, employ and control

of defendant Order. On information and belief, defendant Father Richard Eckroth is currently assigned to St. John's Abbey.

FACTS

4. Plaintiff John Doe 10A was raised in a devout Roman Catholic family, was baptized, confirmed and regularly celebrated weekly mass and received the holy sacraments through the Roman Catholic church, and particularly through St. Augustine's Church. In addition to very active participation in St. Augustine's Church, John Doe 10A attended St. Augustine's Parochial School. As a result, Plaintiff developed and maintained great admiration, trust, reverence and respect for Roman Catholic priests.

5. In approximately the summer of 1971 or 1972, during the time that plaintiff John Doe 10A was serving as an altar boy at St. Augustine's Church, he spent a great deal of time at St. Augustine's Church rectory. At the same time, defendant Father Richard Eckroth, though officially assigned to the Convent of St. Benedict, spent time in and around the rectory of St. Augustine's Church and ultimately, as a result of his position as a respected and revered Catholic priest, befriended the minor plaintiff and became a mentor and counselor to Plaintiff John Doe 10A.

6. In approximately the summer of 1971 or 1972, defendant Father Richard Eckroth sexually abused plaintiff John Doe 10A, who was then merely seven or eight years old, on two occasions. The sexual abuse occurred at a cabin located in northern Minnesota, which, on information and belief, was owned and operated by the Order. Following the sexual abuse, defendant Father Richard Eckroth threatened and coerced Plaintiff into secrecy by telling Plaintiff that he would kill Plaintiff if anyone ever found out about the sexual contact.

7. On information and belief, defendant Father Richard Eckroth engaged in a variety of aberrant sexual behaviors with minor children in and around the St. Cloud area. Specifically, defendant Father Richard Eckroth fondled the genitals of other minor males and had minor females undress in front of him. Defendant Father Richard Eckroth, using his position as a trusted and respected parish priest, would befriend minor children of the parish by passing out candy, inviting children swimming, and inviting children to a lake cabin in or around the St. Cloud area on the pretext of church retreats.

8. As a direct result of the sexual abuse and sexual exploitation, plaintiff John Doe 10A has suffered and continues to suffer severe emotional distress, embarrassment, loss of self esteem, humiliation and psychological injuries, and physical manifestations thereof, was prevented and will continue to be prevented from performing his normal daily activities and obtaining the full enjoyment of life, has sustained loss of earnings and loss of earning capacity, and has incurred and will continue to incur expenses for medical and psychological treatment, therapy and counseling.

9. The sexual abuse of plaintiff John Doe 10A and the circumstances under which it occurred caused Plaintiff to develop various coping mechanisms, including denial and self-blame, and subsequently symptoms of psychological distress, including great shame, humiliation, loss of self-esteem and depression. Because of the coping mechanisms and psychological distress which resulted, and the coercive nature of the threats made by defendant Father Richard Eckroth, plaintiff John Doe 10A did not know, nor did he have reason to know that he was a victim of sexual abuse and suffered injury as a result of that abuse until within two years of bringing this claim. Plaintiff's action is therefore timely pursuant to common law tolling

provisions and Minn. Stat. § 541.073.

COUNT I: DEFENDANT FATHER RICHARD ECKROTH - BATTERY

Plaintiff, for his first cause of action against defendant Father Richard Eckroth, alleges as follows:

Plaintiff incorporates all paragraphs of this Complaint as if fully set forth under this Count and further alleges that:

10. In approximately the summer of 1971 or 1972, defendant Father Richard Eckroth engaged in unpermitted, harmful and offensive sexual contact upon the person of the minor plaintiff John Doe 10A.

11. As a direct result of the sexual battery, plaintiff John Doe 10A has suffered the injuries and damages described herein.

COUNT II: DEFENDANT ORDER - VICARIOUS LIABILITY

Plaintiff, for his first cause of action against defendant Order, alleges as follows:

Plaintiff incorporates all paragraphs of this Complaint as if fully set forth under this Count and further alleges that:

12. At all times material, defendant Father Richard Eckroth was employed by defendant Order. Defendant Father Richard Eckroth was under defendant Order's direct supervision and control when he committed the wrongful acts described herein. Defendant Father Richard Eckroth engaged in this conduct while in the course and scope of his employment with defendant Order and/or accomplished the sexual abuse by virtue of his job-created authority and therefore, this Defendant is liable for the negligent and wrongful conduct of defendant Father Richard Eckroth under the law of vicarious liability, including the doctrine of respondeat superior.

**COUNT III: DEFENDANT ORDER -
NEGLIGENT PLACEMENT AND/OR SUPERVISION**

Plaintiff for his second cause of action against defendant Order, alleges as follows:

Plaintiff incorporates all paragraphs of this complaint as if fully set forth under this count and further alleges that:

13. Defendant Order by and through its agents knew or should reasonably have known of defendant Father Richard Eckroth's dangerous and exploitive propensities as a child sexual abuser and/or an unfit agent, and despite such knowledge, defendant Order negligently placed defendant Father Richard Eckroth in the position of trust and authority where he had access to minor children and was able to commit the wrongful acts against the plaintiff. Defendant Order failed to provide reasonable supervision of defendant Father Richard Eckroth and failed to provide adequate warning to Plaintiff and his family.

14. As a direct result of Defendant's negligent conduct, plaintiff John Doe 10A has suffered the injuries and damages described herein.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgement against Defendants individually, jointly and severally in an amount in excess of \$50,000 plus costs, disbursements, reasonable attorneys fees, interest, and whatever other relief the Court deems just and equitable.

Dated: 6/14/94

REINHARDT AND ANDERSON



By: Jeffrey R. Anderson, #2057
Karen A. Kugler, #220462
Attorneys for Plaintiff
E-1400 First Natl Bank Bldg.
332 Minnesota Street
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
(612) 227-9990

By: Gregory Walz, #183891
Attorney for Plaintiff
925 South First Street
St. Cloud, MN 56302
(612) 253-3700

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The undersigned hereby acknowledges that costs, disbursements, and reasonable attorney and witness fees may be awarded pursuant to Minn. Stat. §549.21, subdivision 2, to the party against whom the allegations in this pleading are asserted.


Jeffrey R. Anderson

REINHARDT & ANDERSON

Attorneys at Law

E-1000 First National Bank Building
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Jeffrey R. Anderson*†
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Gavin S. Wilkinson

June 14, 1994

The Order of St. Benedict
Collegeville, Minnesota

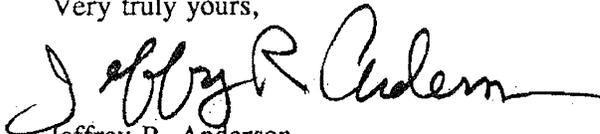
Re: John Doe 10A vs. The Order of St. Benedict of the Roman Catholic Church, a/k/a
St. John's Abbey, Diocese of St. Cloud, St. Augustine's Church in St. Cloud,
Minnesota and Father Richard Eckroth

To Whom It May Concern:

Enclosed and personally served upon you please find the Summons and Complaint regarding
the above-referenced matter.

For your information, Plaintiff identified as John Doe 10A is

Very truly yours,



Jeffrey R. Anderson

JRA:lrb
Enc.

†Certified as Civil Trial Specialist

*Also admitted in Wisconsin

**Also admitted in Washington, D.C.

††Also admitted in California and Colorado

STATE OF MINNESOTA

DISTRICT COURT

COUNTY OF STEARNS

SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

John Doe 10A,

SUMMONS

Plaintiff,

vs.

Court File No. _____

The Order of St. Benedict of the Roman
Catholic Church, a/k/a St. John's
Abbey and Father Richard Eckroth,

Defendants.

THE STATE OF MINNESOTA TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to serve upon Plaintiff's attorney an Answer to the Complaint which is herewith served upon you within twenty (20) days after service of this Summons upon you, exclusive of the day of service.

If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

Dated: 6/14/94

REINHARDT AND ANDERSON


By: Jeffrey R. Anderson, #2057

Karen A. Kugler, #220462
Attorneys for Plaintiff
E-1400 First Natl Bank Bldg.
332 Minnesota Street
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
(612) 227-9990

By: Gregory Walz, #183891
Attorney for Plaintiff
925 South First Street
St. Cloud, MN 56302
(612) 253-3700

34834

OSB ECKROTH 00748

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF STEARNS

DISTRICT COURT
SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

John Doe 10A,

Plaintiff,

COMPLAINT

vs.

Court File No. _____

The Order of St. Benedict of the Roman
Catholic Church, a/k/a St. John's
Abbey and Father Richard Eckroth,

Defendants.

Plaintiff, for his cause of action against defendants alleges that:

PARTIES

1. Plaintiff John Doe 10A, whose identity is made known to defendants by separate cover letter, is an adult male resident of the State of Iowa. Plaintiff John Doe 10A was a minor resident of the state of Minnesota at the time of all sexual abuse and sexual exploitation alleged herein.

2. At all times material, defendant The Order of St. Benedict of the Roman Catholic Church, a/k/a St. John's Abbey (hereinafter "Order"), a Roman Catholic religious order of priests, was and continues to be a non-profit religious organization authorized to conduct business and conducting business in the State of Minnesota with its principle place of business at St. John's Abbey, Collegeville, Minnesota.

3. At all times material, defendant Father Richard Eckroth was a Roman Catholic priest, educated by, ordained in and under the direct supervision, authority, employ and control

of defendant Order. On information and belief, defendant Father Richard Eckroth is currently assigned to St. John's Abbey.

FACTS

4. Plaintiff John Doe 10A was raised in a devout Roman Catholic family, was baptized, confirmed and regularly celebrated weekly mass and received the holy sacraments through the Roman Catholic church, and particularly through St. Augustine's Church. In addition to very active participation in St. Augustine's Church, John Doe 10A attended St. Augustine's Parochial School. As a result, Plaintiff developed and maintained great admiration, trust, reverence and respect for Roman Catholic priests.

5. In approximately the summer of 1971 or 1972, during the time that plaintiff John Doe 10A was serving as an altar boy at St. Augustine's Church, he spent a great deal of time at St. Augustine's Church rectory. At the same time, defendant Father Richard Eckroth, though officially assigned to the Convent of St. Benedict, spent time in and around the rectory of St. Augustine's Church and ultimately, as a result of his position as a respected and revered Catholic priest, befriended the minor plaintiff and became a mentor and counselor to Plaintiff John Doe 10A.

6. In approximately the summer of 1971 or 1972, defendant Father Richard Eckroth sexually abused plaintiff John Doe 10A, who was then merely seven or eight years old, on two occasions. The sexual abuse occurred at a cabin located in northern Minnesota, which, on information and belief, was owned and operated by the Order. Following the sexual abuse, defendant Father Richard Eckroth threatened and coerced Plaintiff into secrecy by telling Plaintiff that he would kill Plaintiff if anyone ever found out about the sexual contact.

7. On information and belief, defendant Father Richard Eckroth engaged in a variety of aberrant sexual behaviors with minor children in and around the St. Cloud area. Specifically, defendant Father Richard Eckroth fondled the genitals of other minor males and had minor females undress in front of him. Defendant Father Richard Eckroth, using his position as a trusted and respected parish priest, would befriend minor children of the parish by passing out candy, inviting children swimming, and inviting children to a lake cabin in or around the St. Cloud area on the pretext of church retreats.

8. As a direct result of the sexual abuse and sexual exploitation, plaintiff John Doe 10A has suffered and continues to suffer severe emotional distress, embarrassment, loss of self esteem, humiliation and psychological injuries, and physical manifestations thereof, was prevented and will continue to be prevented from performing his normal daily activities and obtaining the full enjoyment of life, has sustained loss of earnings and loss of earning capacity, and has incurred and will continue to incur expenses for medical and psychological treatment, therapy and counseling.

9. The sexual abuse of plaintiff John Doe 10A and the circumstances under which it occurred caused Plaintiff to develop various coping mechanisms, including denial and self-blame, and subsequently symptoms of psychological distress, including great shame, humiliation, loss of self-esteem and depression. Because of the coping mechanisms and psychological distress which resulted, and the coercive nature of the threats made by defendant Father Richard Eckroth, plaintiff John Doe 10A did not know, nor did he have reason to know that he was a victim of sexual abuse and suffered injury as a result of that abuse until within two years of bringing this claim. Plaintiff's action is therefore timely pursuant to common law tolling

provisions and Minn. Stat. § 541.073.

COUNT I: DEFENDANT FATHER RICHARD ECKROTH - BATTERY

Plaintiff, for his first cause of action against defendant Father Richard Eckroth, alleges as follows:

Plaintiff incorporates all paragraphs of this Complaint as if fully set forth under this Count and further alleges that:

10. In approximately the summer of 1971 or 1972, defendant Father Richard Eckroth engaged in unpermitted, harmful and offensive sexual contact upon the person of the minor plaintiff John Doe 10A.

11. As a direct result of the sexual battery, plaintiff John Doe 10A has suffered the injuries and damages described herein.

COUNT II: DEFENDANT ORDER - VICARIOUS LIABILITY

Plaintiff, for his first cause of action against defendant Order, alleges as follows:

Plaintiff incorporates all paragraphs of this Complaint as if fully set forth under this Count and further alleges that:

12. At all times material, defendant Father Richard Eckroth was employed by defendant Order. Defendant Father Richard Eckroth was under defendant Order's direct supervision and control when he committed the wrongful acts described herein. Defendant Father Richard Eckroth engaged in this conduct while in the course and scope of his employment with defendant Order and/or accomplished the sexual abuse by virtue of his job-created authority and therefore, this Defendant is liable for the negligent and wrongful conduct of defendant Father Richard Eckroth under the law of vicarious liability, including the doctrine of respondeat superior.

**COUNT III: DEFENDANT ORDER -
NEGLIGENT PLACEMENT AND/OR SUPERVISION**

Plaintiff for his second cause of action against defendant Order, alleges as follows:

Plaintiff incorporates all paragraphs of this complaint as if fully set forth under this count and further alleges that:

13. Defendant Order by and through its agents knew or should reasonably have known of defendant Father Richard Eckroth's dangerous and exploitive propensities as a child sexual abuser and/or an unfit agent, and despite such knowledge, defendant Order negligently placed defendant Father Richard Eckroth in the position of trust and authority where he had access to minor children and was able to commit the wrongful acts against the plaintiff. Defendant Order failed to provide reasonable supervision of defendant Father Richard Eckroth and failed to provide adequate warning to Plaintiff and his family.

14. As a direct result of Defendant's negligent conduct, plaintiff John Doe 10A has suffered the injuries and damages described herein.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgement against Defendants individually, jointly and severally in an amount in excess of \$50,000 plus costs, disbursements, reasonable attorneys fees, interest, and whatever other relief the Court deems just and equitable.

Dated: 6/14/94

REINHARDT AND ANDERSON


By: Jeffrey R. Anderson, #2057
Karen A. Kugler, #220462
Attorneys for Plaintiff
E-1400 First Natl Bank Bldg.
332 Minnesota Street
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
(612) 227-9990

By: Gregory Walz, #183891
Attorney for Plaintiff
925 South First Street
St. Cloud, MN 56302
(612) 253-3700

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The undersigned hereby acknowledges that costs, disbursements, and reasonable attorney and witness fees may be awarded pursuant to Minn. Stat. §549.21, subdivision 2, to the party against whom the allegations in this pleading are asserted.


Jeffrey R. Anderson

REINHARDT & ANDERSON

Attorneys at Law

E-1000 First National Bank Building
332 Minnesota Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101
Office: 612/227-9990 Fax: 612/297-6543

Jeffrey R. Anderson*†
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June 14, 1994

The Order of St. Benedict
Collegeville, Minnesota

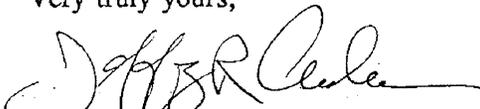
Re: John Doe 10B vs. The Order of St. Benedict of the Roman Catholic Church, a/k/a
St. John's Abbey, Diocese of St. Cloud, St. Augustine's Church in St. Cloud,
Minnesota and Father Richard Eckroth

To Whom It May Concern:

Enclosed and personally served upon you please find the Summons and Complaint regarding
the above-referenced matter.

For your information, Plaintiff identified as John Doe 10B is

Very truly yours,



Jeffrey R. Anderson

JRA:lrb
Enc.

†Certified as Civil Trial Specialist

*Also admitted in Wisconsin

**Also admitted in Washington, D.C.

††Also admitted in California and Colorado

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF STEARNS

DISTRICT COURT
SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

John Doe 10B,
Plaintiff,

SUMMONS

vs.

Court File No. _____

The Order of St. Benedict of the Roman
Catholic Church, a/k/a St. John's
Abbey, Diocese of St. Cloud, St. Augustine's
Church in St. Cloud, Minnesota and
Father Richard Eckroth,

Defendants.

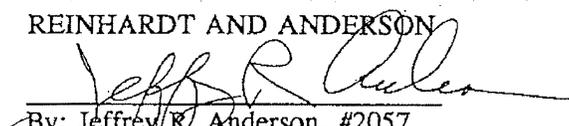
THE STATE OF MINNESOTA TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to serve upon Plaintiff's attorney an
Answer to the Complaint which is herewith served upon you within twenty (20) days after
service of this Summons upon you, exclusive of the day of service.

If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded
in the Complaint.

Dated: 6/14/94

REINHARDT AND ANDERSON


By: Jeffrey R. Anderson, #2057

Karen A. Kugler, #220462

Attorneys for Plaintiff

E-1400 First Natl Bank Bldg.

332 Minnesota Street

St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

(612) 227-9990

By: Gregory Walz, #183891

Attorney for Plaintiff

925 South First Street

St. Cloud, MN 56302

(612) 253-3700

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF STEARNS

DISTRICT COURT
SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

John Doe 10B,

Plaintiff,

COMPLAINT

vs.

Court File No. _____

The Order of St. Benedict of the Roman
Catholic Church, a/k/a St. John's
Abbey, Diocese of St. Cloud, St. Augustine's
Church in St. Cloud, Minnesota and
Father Richard Eckroth,

Defendants.

Plaintiff, for his cause of action against defendants alleges that:

PARTIES

1. Plaintiff John Doe 10B, whose identity is made known to defendants by separate cover letter, is an adult male resident of the State of Minnesota and was a minor at the time of all sexual abuse and sexual exploitation alleged herein.

2. At all times material, defendant The Order of St. Benedict of the Roman Catholic Church, a/k/a St. John's Abbey (hereinafter "Order"), a Roman Catholic religious order of priests, was and continues to be a non-profit religious organization authorized to conduct business and conducting business in the State of Minnesota with its principle place of business at St. John's Abbey, Collegeville, Minnesota.

3. At all times material, defendant Diocese of St. Cloud (hereinafter "Diocese") was and continues to be a Minnesota non-profit religious corporation under the Diocese of the Roman

Catholic Church, whose principal place of business is located at 214 South Third Avenue, St. Cloud, Minnesota.

4. At all times material, defendant St. Augustine's Church in St. Cloud, Minnesota (hereinafter At. Augustine's Church), was and continues to be a Minnesota non-profit religious corporation, authorized to conduct business and conducting business at 443 2nd Street, Southeast, St. Cloud, Minnesota. Defendant Augustine's Church, on information and belief, was, at all material times, and continues to be under the direct authority of defendant Diocese.

5. At all times material, defendant Father Richard Eckroth was a Roman Catholic priest, educated by, ordained in and under the direct supervision, authority, employ and control of defendant Order. Defendant Father Richard Eckroth, at all times material, was contemporaneously under the employ and control of defendant Diocese of St. Cloud and St. Augustine's Church, St. Cloud, Minnesota. On information and belief, defendant Father Richard Eckroth is currently assigned to St. John's Abbey.

FACTS

6. Plaintiff John Doe 10B was raised in a devout Roman Catholic family, was baptized, confirmed and regularly celebrated weekly mass and received the holy sacraments through the Roman Catholic church, and particularly through St. Augustine's Church. Therefore, Plaintiff developed and maintained great admiration, trust, reverence and respect for Roman Catholic priests.

7. In approximately 1973 or 1974, plaintiff John Doe 10B was an altar boy at St. Augustine's Church and a student at St. Augustine's Parochial School. At this time, defendant Father Richard Eckroth was serving as an associate priest at St. Augustine's Church. As a

result, Plaintiff came into frequent contact with defendant Father Richard Eckroth through church and school activities and Plaintiff developed great admiration, trust, reverence and respect for Defendant Eckroth as his parish priest, teacher, holy man and authority figure.

8. In approximately 1973, defendant Father Richard Eckroth sexually abused plaintiff John Doe 10B, who was then merely seven years old, on two occasions. The first instance of sexual abuse occurred at a cabin near Bemidji, Minnesota, believed to be owned and operated by the Order. Defendant Father Richard Eckroth had taken a number of boys to the cabin, including Plaintiff, for a St. Augustine's Church retreat. While at the cabin, Defendant Father Richard Eckroth sodomized the minor plaintiff. The second instance of sexual abuse, which consisted of fondling and masturbation, occurred at the St. Augustine's rectory. Defendant Father Richard Eckroth threatened and coerced Plaintiff into secrecy by telling Plaintiff words to the effect of "Don't tell. If you do, you'll be dead."

9. On information and belief, defendant Father Richard Eckroth engaged in a variety of aberrant sexual behaviors with minor children in the St. Cloud area. Specifically, defendant Father Richard Eckroth fondled the genitals of other minor males and had minor females undress in front of him. Defendant Father Richard Eckroth, using his position as a trusted and respected parish priest, would befriend minor children of the parish by passing out candy, inviting children swimming, and inviting children to a lake cabin in or around the St. Cloud area on the pretext of church retreats.

10. As a direct result of the sexual abuse and sexual exploitation, plaintiff John Doe 10B has suffered and continues to suffer severe emotional distress, embarrassment, loss of self esteem, humiliation and psychological injuries, and physical manifestations thereof, was

prevented and will continue to be prevented from performing his normal daily activities and obtaining the full enjoyment of life, has sustained loss of earnings and loss of earning capacity, and has incurred and will continue to incur expenses for medical and psychological treatment, therapy and counseling.

11. The sexual abuse of plaintiff John Doe 10B and the circumstances under which it occurred caused Plaintiff to develop various coping mechanisms, including denial and self-blame, and subsequently symptoms of psychological distress, including great shame, humiliation, loss of self-esteem and depression. Because of the coping mechanisms and psychological distress which resulted, and the coercive nature of the threats made by defendant Father Richard Eckroth, plaintiff John Doe 10B did not know, nor did he have reason to know that he was a victim of sexual abuse and suffered injury as a result of that abuse until within two years of bringing this claim. Plaintiff's action is therefore timely pursuant to common law tolling provisions and Minn. Stat. § 541.073.

COUNT I: DEFENDANT FATHER RICHARD ECKROTH - BATTERY

Plaintiff, for his first cause of action against defendant Father Richard Eckroth, alleges as follows:

Plaintiff incorporates all paragraphs of this Complaint as if fully set forth under this Count and further alleges that:

12. In approximately 1973, defendant Father Richard Eckroth engaged in unpermitted, harmful and offensive sexual contact upon the person of the minor plaintiff John Doe 10B.

13. As a direct result of the sexual battery, plaintiff John Doe 10B has suffered the injuries and damages described herein.

COUNT II: DEFENDANT ORDER - VICARIOUS LIABILITY

Plaintiff, for his first cause of action against defendant Order, alleges as follows:

Plaintiff incorporates all paragraphs of this Complaint as if fully set forth under this Count and further alleges that:

14. At all times material, defendant Father Richard Eckroth was employed by defendant Order. Defendant Father Richard Eckroth was under defendant Order's direct supervision and control when he committed the wrongful acts described herein. Defendant Father Richard Eckroth engaged in this conduct while in the course and scope of his employment with defendant Order and/or accomplished the sexual abuse by virtue of his job-created authority and therefore, this Defendant is liable for the negligent and wrongful conduct of defendant Father Richard Eckroth under the law of vicarious liability, including the doctrine of respondeat superior.

**COUNT III: DEFENDANT ORDER -
NEGLIGENT PLACEMENT AND/OR SUPERVISION**

Plaintiff for his second cause of action against defendant Order, alleges as follows:

Plaintiff incorporates all paragraphs of this complaint as if fully set forth under this count and further alleges that:

15. Defendant Order by and through its agents knew or should reasonably have known of defendant Father Richard Eckroth's dangerous and exploitive propensities as a child sexual abuser and/or an unfit agent, and despite such knowledge, defendant Order allowed defendant Father Richard Eckroth to be negligently placed in the position of trust and authority as a parish priest where he had access to minor children and was able to commit the wrongful acts against the plaintiff. Defendant Order failed to provide reasonable supervision of defendant Father

Richard Eckroth and failed to provide adequate warning to Plaintiff and his family.

16. As a direct result of Defendant's negligent conduct, plaintiff John Doe 10B has suffered the injuries and damages described herein.

COUNT IV: DEFENDANT DIOCESE - VICARIOUS LIABILITY

Plaintiff, for his first cause of action against defendant Diocese, alleges as follows:

Plaintiff incorporates all paragraphs of this Complaint as if fully set forth under this Count and further alleges that:

17. At all times material, defendant Father Richard Eckroth was contemporaneously employed by defendant Diocese, receiving the permission of the Bishop of the Diocese of St. Cloud to serve as a parish priest at St. Augustine's Church. Defendant Father Richard Eckroth was under defendant Diocese's direct supervision and control when he committed the wrongful acts described herein. defendant Father Richard Eckroth engaged in this conduct while in the course and scope of his employment with defendant Diocese and/or accomplished the sexual abuse by virtue of his job-created authority and therefore, this Defendant is liable for the negligent and wrongful conduct of defendant Father Richard Eckroth under the law of vicarious liability, including the doctrine of respondeat superior.

**COUNT V: DEFENDANT DIOCESE -
NEGLIGENT PLACEMENT AND/OR SUPERVISION**

Plaintiff for his second cause of action against defendant Diocese, alleges as follows:

Plaintiff incorporates all paragraphs of this complaint as if fully set forth under this count and further alleges that:

18. Defendant Diocese by and through its agents knew or should reasonably have known of defendant Father Richard Eckroth's dangerous and exploitive propensities as a child sexual abuser and/or an unfit agent, and despite such knowledge, defendant Diocese negligently placed defendant Father Richard Eckroth in the position of trust and authority as a parish priest where he had access to minor children and was able to commit the wrongful acts against the plaintiff. Defendant Diocese failed to provide reasonable supervision of defendant Father Richard Eckroth and failed to provide adequate warning to Plaintiff and his family.

19. As a direct result of Defendant's negligent conduct, plaintiff John Doe 10B has suffered the injuries and damages described herein.

**COUNT VI: DEFENDANT ST. AUGUSTINE'S CHURCH -
VICARIOUS LIABILITY**

Plaintiff, for his first cause of action against defendant St. Augustine's Church, alleges as follows:

Plaintiff incorporates all paragraphs of this Complaint as if fully set forth under this Count and further alleges that:

20. At all times material, defendant Father Richard Eckroth was contemporaneously employed as a parish priest by defendant St. Augustine's Church. Defendant Father Richard Eckroth was under defendant St. Augustine's Church direct supervision and control when he

committed the wrongful acts described herein. Defendant Father Richard Eckroth engaged in this conduct while in the course and scope of his employment with defendant St. Augustine's Church and/or accomplished the sexual abuse by virtue of his job-created authority and therefore, this Defendant is liable for the negligent and wrongful conduct of defendant Father Richard Eckroth under the law of vicarious liability, including the doctrine of respondeat superior.

**COUNT VII: DEFENDANT ST. AUGUSTINE'S CHURCH -
NEGLIGENT PLACEMENT AND/OR SUPERVISION**

Plaintiff for his second cause of action against defendant St. Augustine's Church, alleges as follows:

Plaintiff incorporates all paragraphs of this complaint as if fully set forth under this count and further alleges that:

21. Defendant St. Augustine's Church by and through its agents knew or should reasonably have known of defendant Father Richard Eckroth's dangerous and exploitive propensities as a child sexual abuser and/or an unfit agent, and despite such knowledge, defendant St. Augustine's Church negligently allowed defendant Father Richard Eckroth to be placed in the position of trust and authority as a parish priest where he had access to minor children and was able to commit the wrongful acts against the plaintiff. Defendant St. Augustine's Church failed to provide reasonable supervision of defendant Father Richard Eckroth and failed to provide adequate warning to Plaintiff and his family.

22. As a direct result of Defendant's negligent conduct, plaintiff John Doe 10B has suffered the injuries and damages described herein.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgement against Defendants individually, jointly and severally in an amount in excess of \$50,000 plus costs, disbursements, reasonable attorneys fees, interest, and whatever other relief the Court deems just and equitable.

Dated: 6/14/94

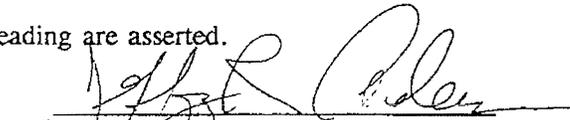
REINHARDT AND ANDERSON


By: Jeffrey R. Anderson, #2057
Karen A. Kugler, #220462
Attorneys for Plaintiff
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332 Minnesota Street
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
(612) 227-9990

By: Gregory Walz, #183891
Attorney for Plaintiff
925 South First Street
St. Cloud, MN 56302
(612) 253-3700

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The undersigned hereby acknowledges that costs, disbursements, and reasonable attorney and witness fees may be awarded pursuant to Minn. Stat. §549.21, subdivision 2, to the party against whom the allegations in this pleading are asserted.


Jeffrey R. Anderson

More sex abuse suits filed against abbey

Lawsuit alleges abuse
of two young boys

By John Welsh
TIMES STAFF WRITER

Two more lawsuits have been filed against St. John's Abbey, bringing to 10 the number of lawsuits alleging sexual abuse of boys or young men by members of the monastery.

The lawsuits filed this week in Stearns County District Court accuse the Rev. Richard Eckroth of abusing two young boys ages 7 or 8 at St. Augustine's Church in St. Cloud about 20 years ago.

Eckroth had been assigned by the abbey as associate pastor at the church. Most recently he had been assigned to St. John's mission in the Bahamas.

When the allegations surfaced, he was brought home by Abbot Timothy Kelly and underwent psychological evaluation, said the Rev. Daniel Durken, the abbey's spokesman. He currently lives at the monastery.

According to the lawsuits, the abuse took place at the rectory and at a cabin owned by the abbey. Eckroth threatened at the time that he would kill the boys if they reported the abuse, the lawsuits said.

The victims' attorney, Jeff Anderson, said Eckroth used his position to befriend children by passing out candy, inviting children swimming and inviting them to the lake cabin.

Both victims have suffered severe emotional distress because of the abuse, the lawsuit said. According to Anderson, one of the victims was an altar boy who had two younger brothers who were

■ We want to reaffirm our pledge to respond to allegations of this manner as quickly as we can. Our first concern is to offer care and counseling to the victim. ■

The Rev. Daniel Durken
ST. JOHN'S ABBEY SPOKESMAN

abused by another St. Augustine's priest, the Rev. Cosmas Dahlheimer. A suit against Dahlheimer, who also served in the parish in the early 1970s, was filed in Stearns County earlier this year.

Since 1990, six priests and two religious brothers have been accused of sexual abuse in the 10 lawsuits filed. Four suits have been settled out of court, two have been thrown out because of statute of limitations and four cases are still pending.

"We are saddened by the allegations," said Durken. "We want to reaffirm our pledge to respond to allegations of this manner as quickly as we can. Our first concern is to offer care and counseling to the victim."

In the last year, St. John's has taken a leadership position in combatting clergy abuse.

It has established the Sexual Trauma Institute and later this summer will host a national support meeting for survivors of clergy abuse.

JUNE 17, 1994

STATEMENT TO BE READ AT ALL MASSES
AT SAINT AUGUSTINE'S CHURCH, ST. CLOUD, JUNE 18 AND 19

The Friday St. Cloud Times reported civil lawsuits of sexual abuse which have been filed against Father Cosmas Dahlheimer and Father Richard Eckroth. The lawsuits concern accusations of sexual abuse against minors who were St. Augustine parishioners in the early 1970s when the alleged incidents occurred. Frs. Richard and Cosmas are former-St. Augustine's associate pastors.

When the allegations of abuse were made known to the superior of Saint John's Abbey, he immediately implemented the Abbey's policy regarding such accusations. The superior offered counseling to the victims who are now adults and to their families. Father Cosmas, age 85, has been retired in the health center at Saint John's for five years. Because of his frail physical and mental health, he is confined to the health center. Father Richard, age 67, also lives in the monastery. He has received psychological evaluation.

During the last several years, Saint John's Abbey has undertaken a number of initiatives to intervene immediately when sexual abuse charges are made, to care for a victim's needs to help achieve healing, to deal quickly and responsibly with perpetrators and to take every step possible to prevent sexual abuse. Saint John's has announced the availability of victim's advocates to care for the needs of victims.

Today Saint John's Abbey reasserts its pledge to respond immediately when an accusation is made against a member of the monastic community. Sexual abuse and exploitation are unquestionably deplorable.

The Saint John's monastic community wants parishioners of St. Augustine's parish to know of its deep concern for the pain sexual abuse causes victims, their families and parishioners. To provide an opportunity to deal with the anger, pain and loss which many of you are feeling, there will be a meeting for parishioners only on Wednesday, June 22, at 7:30 p.m. in the parish hall. Abbot Timothy Kelly of Saint John's Abbey and Father Daniel Taufen will be present to answer questions, respond to concerns and to pray with the parish for all those involved in this regrettable matter.

Please support one another and pray for God's blessing and peace.

COLLEGEVILLE, MN (June 17, 1994) -- Civil lawsuits of sexual abuse have been filed against Father Cosmas Dahlheimer, O.S.B., and Father Richard Eckroth, O.S.B., both of Saint John's Abbey. The lawsuits concern allegations of sexual abuse of male minors who are now adults during the 1970s.

When the allegations of abuse were made known to the superior of Saint John's Abbey, he immediately implemented the abbey's policy regarding such allegations. Abbot Timothy Kelly offered to make counseling available to the alleged victims and their family members.

Father Dahlheimer, age 85, has been retired in the monastery's health center at Saint John's for five years. Because of his frail physical and mental health, he is confined to the health center. Father Eckroth, age 67, has received psychological evaluation and currently lives in the monastery.

The Saint John's monastic community is saddened by these allegations and reaffirms its pledge to respond immediately when any such accusation is made against a member of the abbey. Abbot Timothy said, "The first concern of the monastic community is to offer care and counseling for victims. Because sexual abuse and exploitation are unquestionably deplorable, this community will continue to follow every detail of its 1989 policy in these matters."

MEMORANDUM

TO: Father Rene McGraw, O.S.B.
FROM: Abbot Timothy Kelly, O.S.B.
RE: Visit by
DATE: June 22, 1994

visited me this afternoon at 3:00 o'clock. In 1975 he and a group of others from Albany, MN went to the Swenson Lake cabin with Father Richard. His memories of it are only good. He was about 15 years old at the time. He considers his contact with Fathers Richard, Germain, and Blaise as being reasons he is a Catholic today. He talked about the sauna. He may be someone that the lawyers might want to interview and he is willing. Name and address follow:

OSB ECKROTH_00268

ATTORNEY-CLIENT/WORK PRODUCT

OSB ECKROTH_00269

ATTORNEY-CLIENT/WORK PRODUCT

OSB ECKROTH_00270

**CASTOR, KLUKAS, SCHERER & LOGREN
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JOHN E. CASTOR*
JEROME R. KLUKAS
RICHARD S. SCHERER
ARLEN R. LOGREN

MARK J. PADGETT

*ALSO ADMITTED IN WISCONSIN

June 24, 1994

REINHARDT & ANDERSON
E-1400 First National Bank Building
332 Minnesota Street
St. Paul, MN 55101

VIA FACSIMILE

297-6543

Attention: Jeffrey R. Anderson

Re: John Doe 10A v. The Order of
St. Benedict, et al.
John Doe 10B v. The Order of
St. Benedict, et al.
Our File Nos.: 8602 & 8603

Dear Mr. Anderson:

The purpose of this letter is to request that you immediately voluntarily amend the Complaints in these actions to eliminate the references to sexual abuse, assault, exploitation and improprieties involving minor children other than your two clients. Specifically, I am referring to paragraph 7 of the Complaint and paragraph 9 of the Complaint.

It appears to me that those allegations are irrelevant and immaterial to the claims you have asserted on behalf of your clients. The matters asserted are patently scandalous. Those and the other allegations filed with the Court and publicized through the media damage the good names, reputations and interests of all of the defendants and those of St. John's and Fr. Eckroth, in particular. In addition to those areas of harm, the allegation that there have been numerous other incidents of criminal sexual misconduct attributable to St. John's involving unidentified local boys and girls will adversely affect St. John's right to trial by a fair and impartial jury. You have literally caused every parent, grandparent and other concerned persons in the St. Cloud area to wonder if someone close to them has been victimized. Unless you and I can work out some type of mutually acceptable corrective action, it will be necessary for me to proceed formally to request that the immaterial allegations

OSB ECKROTH 00770

REINHARDT & ANDERSON
June 24, 1994
Page 2

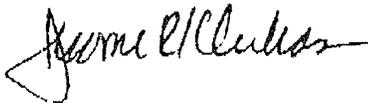
be stricken and for sanctions available under Rule 11 and M.S. §549.21.

Further, assuming that the attached St. Cloud Times newspaper articles are accurate, it appears that you personally were involved in generating the publicity, including the allegations of the existence of other unidentified victims. Among other things, I refer you to Rule 3.6 of the Rules of Professional Conduct which prohibit the dissemination of extrajudicial statements that the lawyer knows or reasonably should have known that there is a substantial likelihood of materially prejudicing a pending proceeding. While the Minnesota Rule specifically refers only to criminal proceedings, my understanding is that the ABA model rule either recently adopted or still under consideration extends it to civil proceedings. In any event, the same concept of unfair prejudice applies.

Because of the time limitations for bringing a motion to strike, I ask that you give these matters your immediate attention. In addition to the allegations relating to these cases, the June 17th St. Cloud Times article reports that two lawsuits involving St. John's monks had been settled. My understanding of the settlement agreements made is that the settlements were confidential and that disclosure of the fact of settlement was precluded by the agreements entered. I hope that you were not the information source for the tally, as the disclosure certainly makes it more difficult to consider future settlements, such as those made on a cost of defense basis where the claims are highly questionable and susceptible to dismissal, in any event.

Realizing your role is that of an advocate, I am not suggesting that you hold back; merely that you confine your advocacy to the courtroom setting where relevant evidence and not mere accusations are submitted to the jury for its determination of the truth. I will be starting a week's vacation on July 1 and request that you respond by the morning of June 30th if you believe that the situation can and should be rectified without the necessity of a motion.

Yours very truly,



Jerome R. Klukas

JRK:kn
Enclosures

cc: Robert T. Stich, Esq.
John D. Quinlivan, Esq.

SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY

BOX 2015

COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA 56321-2015

CONFIDENTIAL

OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

File

September 28, 1994

Mr.

Dear

Father Michael Naughton approached me some time ago with word that you had some complaints about a member of this community that go back quite a few years. I asked Father Michael to invite you to come and see me and repeated this request to him more than once.

I think it is very important that you meet with me and provide me with the details and specifics of your belief that Father Richard Eckroth has in the past engaged in sexual abuse and possibly other criminal misconduct. As things presently stand, I am aware that you have told Father Michael of your beliefs or conclusions regarding Father Richard, but that you have also declined my request to provide the details or specifics so that I can have more or better information upon which to decide what to do. If you have a complaint or accusation, I again ask that you communicate it to me immediately so that I can fulfill my obligation to investigate and take the appropriate action.

You have my assurance that you will not be subjected to retaliation if you come forward with the information I have requested and need. You are also assured that I will take immediate and appropriate action. I am attaching for your information the Abbey's Policy setting forth what I am required to do and what I will do in the event an allegation is made.

Sincerely in Christ,

Abbot Timothy Kelly, O.S.B.

TK/kr

PHONE 612 363-2544 XXXXXXXXXX FAX 612 363-3082

OSB ECKROTH_00271

Rene

Filed Richard v
" "
" "
" "

Meeting Notes:

Abbot's Office , and Abbot Timothy Kelly
4 October 1994

I'm here because the Abbot sent me a letter on the 28th about the Eckroth situation.

employee at The Liturgical Press): I'm here because I've heard this story a lot from I have no proof of anything.

: I related the story to in a confessional way and I couldn't live with it any more. There was a boy, [name uncertain]. His mother called and made a charge against Finian McDonald. and I talked about it. We came to see the Abbot in 1983.

I began to put a case together in 1978 involving the sauna and my two youngest daughters.

[Name uncertain] was assaulted by Finian McDonald. The man was working for us at the Lit Press and he quit because of it. He didn't even want the job listed on his employment record.

I told Abbot Theisen that I wanted to confront Richard Eckroth at that point with the allegations about my son and 8 other children in the sauna at Redlake.

My brother, was with me when I met with Abbot Jerome. I asked Abbot Jerome to remove him from his assignment in the Bahamas.

Since that time I developed a list of 19 children, now 21, including the boys. The 23rd child I can't state his name. He was 12 years old. Eckroth encouraged him to be naked. Richard asked them to fondle him.

Of all the kids on this list, 10 have gone to state hospitals, 5 have committed suicide, and 2 have attempted suicide. Two died in auto accidents before the age of 20.

My response to your letter was, I didn't get any sleep. I talked to a couple in Saint Joe who helped me to put names with families.

Jeff Anderson asked that I get the list together.

I went to see _____ because in May of 1992 a young boy,
His father worked at the _____

On leaving the wake I brought a rose for my daughter and gave it to her. There were flowers all over and I bet that kid never got a rose in his whole life. My daughter began to weep and she said he was a sauna boy.

It wasn't until August when I went to a concrete plant to get some blocks. I mentioned _____ name. The guy there said he worked with his son. I said, maybe he had something he couldn't live with. I went to see _____ and I showed him some pictures of Eckroth and the _____ children.

_____ said this was the prime suspect in the death of the two girls. The man who did the investigation was dead and his notes are missing.

I saw a doctor (psychiatrist) in 1978. I told him of my anger that is so raw that I can taste the blood in the back of my mouth.

The psychiatrist I talked with said he tested the people here in the abbey -- juniors, candidates. Between the 2nd and 4th or 5th session he asked who it was and I said Richard Eckroth. (_____ told his mother "He massaged me all over, including my penis." Since that time all _____ will say is, "Nothing happened. I don't want to talk about it.")

I got _____ history from when he was in Second West at Saint Cloud hospital. Notes from Steichen....

They felt the skeletons in our family closet were too many to be exposed. I think this is Saint John's James Porter. The only difference being, not all the people are living any more. But those children's lives have been trashed.

I don't think my son has had a good moment since he was 12 years old. In my wife's case I fought the state's diagnosis all the way....

_____ has been in six hospitals. This has been a terrible burden on my wife since 1978. _____ We have been constantly accused. Now I think the state hospital is beginning to change.

I gave _____ doctor the August article about Richard Eckroth. I would never comment on Cosmas. I told Anderson I would fight for Tarlton. I would not recommend any child to Steichen, Andert, or Jason.

I didn't want Steichen in charge of any child, and Andert less so. But I see these people getting awards.

I called the people from Saint Joseph. They're going to help me plot out the children. I'm going to over-lay that with a list of the suicides, then over-lay that with the children who went to drug use.

I turned my own son and 40 others in to the crime bureau for using drugs. One of the monks was a user -- a protegee of Theisen.

ABBOT TIMOTHY: Can you find that name for me?

I've carried this for 16 1/2 years. I've had a wife in the hospital for 30 years. is stable now, on medication, but unemployed and disabled. We know that as a child things happened. He drank a can of pop given to him by little Then another. Then someone shouted, "What have you done!" He was in a coma from Friday to Sunday. I know that was a drug user, a pusher. I'll be able to detail others that had stashes.

We brought in someone, but the stashes had all been removed so there wouldn't be a drug bust to embarrass the community.

Back in 1978

I began to piece things together.

1/3 of cub scout troop is dead or in the hospital. Everyone of them thought Richard Eckroth was a strange man.

The girls hadn't developed breasts yet. writes, "I remember the sauna where he took me. He encouraged us to get naked. All he wore was swimming trunks, or a tight swimming suit or a fig leaf." The property was at the cabin.

He took the kids upstairs to get changed for a costume party. He touched one of my daughters between her legs. Then she lists others.

I was going to come and see you with I think that if my brother hadn't been with me when I came to talk with Jerome Theisen, he would have had no recollection of our meeting. I asked for a confrontation with Eckroth. I told him about Finian McDonald. I wanted him away from the university. Just a few weeks later it was announced that he was being promoted to coordinator of the Freshmen.

Then at the second Bishop's meeting I talked with in visibly dismayed. They brought the Bishop over to hear. Large rellow, mulatto color to him. That was at the second bishop's meeting, about 1983. It was after the meeting with Theisen. I was really upset to see Finian elevated and

put into direct contact with the Freshmen.

So besides having a sick wife and son.... I sent a copy of the Abbot's (Abbot Timothy's) letter to my kids. Two daughters told me not to see the Abbot without an attorney. said he'd go with me. I didn't know about the people except through his wife.

will not survive the trial. He has a bad heart. His wife is as bad as he is.

I want Richard to take a lie detector test. I don't want to kill him, I want to look him in the eyes and confront him. He triggered in the lives of these children activities that should not have happened and his activities have cut so deep.

I told my father in 1979 that I had a list of 9 kids. He died just days later.

I confessed it to once and the next day he had a heart attack.

I think this guy has taken the good works of Saint John's

You're the fourth Abbot I met. If being over-identified with Saint John's is a negative.... Steichen. I could dig him up and put a stake through his heart.

ABBOT TIMOTHY: You haven't told me what you had against Steichen.

believe he told the counsellors that children. He wouldn't let the chaplain, Father Simeon Thole, contact the parents and tell them that their kids were involved with drugs.

The guy who told me that my son was pushing drugs, his contract wasn't renewed --

I'd just as soon end this now.

The did not think I should give this....

In 78 I wanted to get a TV reporter to check this out. I suggested it to them yesterday.

I'm waiting for instructions from Jeff Anderson. Jeff said that would have to bring charges. With the daughters' situations, the statute of limitations had run out.

My thought is, I want the to win. The children, there were threats. Another family had threats against it. I think I can end my son's paranoid schizophrenia by bringing him to the sauna and letting him know what happened to him when he was 12.

I think people like Theisen and Tavis would have him on drugs.

Believe it or not, I prayed for that son of a bitch.

If I am wrong and had 20 life times, there's no way I could ask his forgiveness. If I'm right,

I was mad at the people who moved him around. People who covered his ass are just as guilty, if not more so.

I need to list other kids, but I'd break the confidences.

ABBOT TIMOTHY: I've known you a long time, but I didn't know you were carrying all this pain.

On September 2, I learned they were going to put ...
back into my wife.

Now they have Dunstan Moorese working at the Lit Press. It's a good thing I wasn't there the day he spoke to the staff. Dunstan Moorese says he knows the warning signs. He has the gall to say his victims were 17, 18, and 19.

I told the doctors that morning, if you give her that stuff she'll go into shock. I knew they hadn't read what happened to her the last time she took that stuff.

I could stop the or but this thing is too big.

If it hadn't been for the people at Saint John's who came to me with their problems and who listened to my tremendous grief, I couldn't have survived.

I asked if I could talk to their sons.

I wanted to be sure I could include them on my list.

He can't take any more.

If he dies, I'm going to go to the press.

If somebody doesn't get a lie detector on him, I have to go to the press.

Saint John's was the best thing when I was young. Best teachers.

.....

I've been blind-sided by every institution I've gone to for help. Every power or authority or responsible person. The man should not have done what he did.

I can't say he sexually abused every one or those children, but I believe it for

I can't give you any more.

ABBOT TIMOTHY: I'm sorry for all of this. If my word could heal, I'd heal you.

How can a consecrated man do that? Naked with children. what was he like as a child? Luke Steiner or Gordon Tavis could tell you. [They grew up with Richard.]

Did he do anything to the kids at Andros? I'm checking that out with people I know in the Bahamas.

My son saw your letter and said, "I have no comment, dad."

ABBOT TIMOTHY: Is he still in the hospital?

No. He's on medications. Initiates nothing, finishes nothing. He'd be a good person to care for the old people, but he doesn't trust the younger ones. When you see where these kids went, the hair would stand up on the back of your neck.

Do you have any questions?

: It's time to get some resolution to it. For your own sake. It's been too long.

ABBOT TIMOTHY: Are you able to get counselling help?

: I don't think there's anyone in the Roman Catholic Church I would trust.

ABBOT TIMOTHY: What about psychological counselling?

I talked about it to three social workers. One of them didn't have hospital faculties. We can't pin point who dosed her up.

I said, "Did you read last Thursday's paper?" he said, "From what we've been reading about Saint John's, all of us don't think you're as crazy as we thought you were." That can be taken in several ways....

I cringe every time I hear Dunstan Moore on MPR. If I see Richard Eckroth at the altar, I'll stand up on the pew and call him what he is.

I told the attorney I'll fight hard for Gilbert Tarlton. Conrad Diekmann was a good teacher. Cosmas doesn't have this in his system. Not an inkle of it.

My children were not the kind of people that could make up this kind of a lie at that age. There was nothing in the house, not videos or magazines, with anything like that.

: When did your girls bring this up?

May of 1992. was 1 years old. She had a little led. She had counselling and it came out.

This guy doesn't quit hurting. I wanted me to visit with you, with and himself.

I said I'd see you in a confessional way. I would be willing to meet with an attorney present in this man's house. This guy has cost us money. I thought he should have his fingers cut off so he can't hold a host or a child.

ABBOT TIMOTHY: You know we have to let the legal process go on.

I'm against Richard Eckroth. I have to watch my back. That's called paranoia, isn't it? The guy was never hauled in for questioning. I'm sorry for all of you....

ATTORNEY-CLIENT/WORK PRODUCT

OSB ECKROTH_00280

ATTORNEY-CLIENT/WORK PRODUCT

OSB ECKROTH_00281

ATTORNEY-CLIENT/WORK PRODUCT

OSB ECKROTH_00282

ATTORNEY-CLIENT/WORK PRODUCT

OSB ECKROTH_00283

ATTORNEY-CLIENT/WORK PRODUCT

OSB ECKROTH_00284

ATTORNEY-CLIENT/WORK PRODUCT

OSB ECKROTH_00285

ATTORNEY-CLIENT/WORK PRODUCT

OSB ECKROTH_00286

SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY
BOX 2015
COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA 56321-2015

OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

October 31, 1994

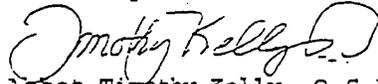
Dear

During our meeting on 4 October 1994, you expressed your willingness to share with me and with our lawyers your research on children who had been associated with Fr. Richard Eckroth in the early '70's.

We are now at the stage of our continuing research into the material which you provided where it would be very helpful if you could share those overlays with me, so that I could provide them to our lawyers. From your description, I would gather that I would also need some written explanation of those overlays.

Blessings and peace!

Sincerely in Christ,



Abbot Timothy Kelly, O.S.B.

TK/kr

PHONE 612 363-3544  FAX 612 363-3082

OSB ECKROTH_00245

NOVEMBER 1, 1994

SUGGESTED QUESTIONS TO RAISE IN REGARD THE RICHARD W, ECKRÖTH
POLYGRAPH EXAMINATION.

- Q: IN 1957, DID YOU EVER QUESTION YOUNG COLLEGE FRESHMEN OR PREPARATORY STUDENTS ABOUT WHAT THEY THOUGHT OF MEN HAVING SEX WITH OTHER MEN OR YOUNGER BOYS?
- Q: WERE YOU TEACHING PHILOSOPHY INTRODUCTORY COURSES AT THE COLLEGE LEVEL IN 1956-57?
- Q: DO YOU RECALL YOUR FORMER TEACHER FROM MANDAN, NORTH DAKOTA, SISTER MAROLD?
- Q: DID YOU MASSAGE YOUNG BOYS AND GIRLS AT THE ABBEY-OWNED, SWENSEN CABIN IN THE CASS LAKE AREA?
- Q: DO YOU RECALL A SAUNA REBUILT FROM A FORMER HORSE BARN?
- Q: DID YOU MASSAGE THE BUTTOCKS, BACK, PENIS, SCROTUM, THE PUBIS OF ANY YOUNG CHILD IN THE BARN-SAUNA?
- Q: DID YOU ENCOURAGE YOUNG CHILDREN TO TAKE SAUNAS IN THE NUDE WITH YOU PRESENT?
- Q: ARE YOU ALSO NUDE DURING THOSE TIMES?
- Q: DID YOU "SKINNY DIP" WITH YOUNG CHILDREN?
- Q: DID YOU WEAR A SPEEDO SWIMSUIT? A "FIG LEAF" BIKINI?
- Q: DID YOU ENCOURAGE YOUNG CHILDREN TO PLAY GAMES WHICH INVOLVED UNDRESSING AND THEN WEARING TIGHTS, COSTUMES YOU PROVIDED?
- Q: WERE YOUR TIGHTS BLACK IN COLOR?
- Q: DID YOU ENCOURAGE JUST THE YOUNG BOYS TO SAUNA WITH YOU NUDE? OR DID YOU ENCOURAGE BOTH YOUNG BOYS AND YOUNG GIRLS TO SAUNA WITH YOU IN THE NUDE?
- Q: DID YOU THEN "SKINNY DIP" IN THE LAKE NUDE? IN THE SNOW NUDE?
- Q: DID YOU FONDLE THE BOYS? DID YOU SUGGEST ORAL SEX OF THEM ON YOURSELF? DID YOU PENETRATE AT ANY TIME EITHER THE GIRLS OR THE BOYS?
- Q: DID YOU THREATEN ANY CHILD WITH THE WARNING THAT "THEIR PARENTS WOULD GO TO HELL IF THEY TOLD?" DID YOU THREATEN TO BEAT THEM PHYSICALLY?
- Q: DID YOU TELL THEM THAT YOU WOULD HAVE THEIR FATHER FIRED FROM HIS ST. JOHN'S JOB IF THEY EVER TOLD? OR THAT THE WHOLE FAMILY WOULD STARVE TO DEATH IF THEY TOLD?
- Q: DID YOU TAKE THE YOUNGER GIRLS TO THE LOFT BEDROOM? DO YOU REMEMBER THEIR STANDING NAKED IN THE MIDDLE OF THE BED? DO YOU REMEMBER TOUCHING ONE OF THEM BETWEEN HER THIGHS?

OSB ECKROTH_00249

SUGGESTED QUESTIONS-ECKROTH POLYGRAPH-

Q: DID YOU SEXUALLY PENETRATE WITH YOUR PENIS OR WITH YOUR FINGER ANY ONE OF THOSE YOUNG GIRLS?

Q: DID YOU EVER "BLOW YOUR STACK" IN ANGER OVER A CHILD PLAYING WITH HIS/HER FOOD? *OR THE LITTLE YOUNG GIRL w/ Knife in hand - ?*

Q: ARE YOU AWARE THAT AN EXAMING DOCTOR OF PSYCHIATRY HAD ALERTED THE ABBOT BALDWIN TO YOUR "PROBLEMATIC INCLINATIONS" PRIOR TO YOUR ORDINATION, FIRST ASSIGNMENT, AND SUBSEQUENT REASSIGNMENTS?

Q: DO YOU RECOGNIZE YOUR ACTIVITIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN TO BE ABERANT?
R

Q: DID YOU SEXUALLY MOLEST (NAME 40+KIDS)?

"WE ARE ABLE TO PROVIDE THE INTERVIEWER WITH 40-45 NAMES OF YOUNG PEOPLE NOW IN THEIR MID THIRTIES WHO SHARED THE COMMON EXPERIENCE OF BEING AT THE ST. JOHN'S OWNED CABIN IN THE CASS LAKE AREA....

THE CHILDREN CAME FROM 21 FAMILIES IN THE PARISH OF ST JOSEPH, COLLEGEVILLE, ST CLOUD AREAS. OF THE 40+ YOUNG PEOPLE

- 2 YOUNG GIRLS ARE DECEASED MURDERS
- 2 YOUNG WOMEN ATTEMPTED SUICIDE IN THEIR LATE HIGH SCHOOL YEARS
- 4 BOYS ARE SUICIDES BY THE AGE 21
- 3 BOYS ARE DECEASED BY VEHICULAR ACCIDENTS BETWEEN 15 AND 21 YEARS OF AGE
- 7 BOYS WENT ON TO RECURRENT MENTAL HEALTH INSTITUTIONALIZATIONS (1 OF WHOM WAS CONVICTED OF ATTEMPTED RAPE AT KNIFE POINT)
- 14 BOYS AND GIRLS BECAME HEAVILY ENMESHED IN DRUG USE AND THE SALE OF DRUGS (WITH ONLY 1 BOY BEING JAILED AS A FORMAL DRUG DISTRIBUTOR)

ONE OF THE "PRIMARY" FEMALE VICTIMS HAS SAID, AFTER HEARING THE ABOVE QUESTIONS, "IF THAT PRIEST SAYS "NO" TO ANY OF THE FIRST 22 QUESTIONS...HE (ECKROTH) HAS TO BE A PATHOLOGICAL LIAR."

Q: WERE YOU AWARE THAT THE BISHOP OF THE BAHAMAS AND HIS CHANCELLOR HAD BEEN WARNED BY A LAYPERSON ABOUT YOUR ACTIVITIES AS EARLY AS 1982-83?

Q: ARE YOU AWARE THAT ABBOT JEROME THEISEN WAS MADE PRIVY TO THE ABOVE ACCUSATIONS ON 12 JULY 1982?

Q: DO YOU FEEL ANY REMORSE?

NOVEMBER 1, 1994

PAGE 3

THE PREPARER OF THE ABOVE QUESTIONS HAD REPORTED BITS AND PIECES OF THE ABOVE TO APPROPRIATE RESPONSIBLE PARTIES OVER THE PERIOD OF THE LAST SIXTEEN AND ONE HALF YEARS...FAMILY DOCTOR, A LOCAL PSYCHIATRIST, COUNTY SOCIAL WORKER(S), SHERIFF'S INVESTIGATOR, CONFESSIONALLY TO FRs. GODGREY AND DANIEL, ABT. JEROME THEISEN AND ABT. TIMOTHY KELLY AND HAD QUESTIONED FORMER ABT. BALDWIN DWORSHAK, ALON WITH STATE HOSPITAL CAREGIVERS BEYOND COUNTING. THE FATHER OF 4 OF THESE CHILDREN BELIEVES

*ECKROTH TO BE A COMPOSITE OF A PORTER-ABRAMSON-ECCELSON WITH THE DIFFERENCE BEING THAT NOT ALL OF ECKROTH'S VICTIMS ARE YET ALIVE...HARDLY DID THOSE VICTIMS SURVIVE THEIR TEEN YEARS

*ECKROTH TO BE A PSYCHOLOGICAL "TRIGGER" IN THE LIVES OF 40+ YOUNG PEOPLE WHOSE LIVES WERE NEARLY BLOTTED OUT, WHO HAD NO SELF-ESTEEM, AND USED DRUGS AND ALCOHOL TO COVER WHAT OTHERS COULD NOT SEE

*THAT HIS SON'S "...NOTHING HAPPENED. I DON'T WANT TO TALK ABOUT IT..." DENIAL SHOULD BE CUT THROUGH AND WOULD LIKE TO SEE HIS SON RELIEVED BY "RE-LIVING" HIS SAUNA EXPERIENCE ON SITE

*THAT A CHECK SHOULD BE RUN OF NAMES OF YOUNG PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN CLIENTS OF THE STEARNS COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICES, THE CHILDREN'S HOME, AND VARIOUS MENTAL HEALTH CENTRES IN THIS STATE

*THAT A CHECK OF THE WIDE RANGE OF FAMILIES OF DIFFERENT OCCUPATIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUNDS COULD NOT HAVE ISSUED CHILDREN COINCIDENTALLY BROUGHT TOGETHER AT ONE PLACE WITH ONE PERSON AND LIVE SUCH CRUSHING, GRIEF-FILLED LIVES.

ATTACHED PLEASE FIND COPIES OF TWO LETTERS RECEIVED FROM TWO YOUNG WOMEN AND XEROX COPIES OF PHOTOS DATED 1971-74.

OSB ECKROTH_00251

18 NOVEMBER 1994

MR. JEFF ANDERSON
IS NATIONAL BANK BUILDING
E-1000
332 MINNESOTA STREET
ST. PAUL, MN 55101

DEAR MR. ANDERSON:

IN REGARD THE BROTHERS CLAIM AGAINST THE MONK OF ST. JOHN'S ABBEY- RICHARD ECKROTH, I AM ENCLOSING THE FOLLOWING MATERIALS FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION, NAMELY:

*ABBOT KELLY'S LETTER OF 31 OCTOBER 1994
*A LIST OF QUESTIONS REQUESTED OF THIS FAMILY BY THE FAMILY OF ST. CLOUD AND GIVEN BY [REDACTED] TO THE STEARNS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE INVESTIGATOR, DOUG PEARCE, WHO IN TURN WAS TO PLACE THE QUESTIONS IN THE HANDS OF A STATE OF MINNESOTA POLYGRAPH EXPERT. IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT THE QUESTIONS WOULD BE "RE-PHRASED" BY THE POLYGRAPH EXPERT WHEN HE TESTED ECKROTH. ECKROTH HAD AGREED TO THE TEST IN MID-OCTOBER

*A PARTIAL COPY OF LETTERS PREPARED IN MAY '89- BY MY DAUGHTERS (I DID NOT SEND THE WHOLE LETTER ON AS I DID NOT WANT TO LIST CHILDREN'S NAMES BEFORE YOU HAD MY "CHART")

**XEROX REPRODUCTIONS OF ECKROTH AND YOUR CHILDREN (AMONG OTHERS) DATED 1971, 1972, 197- AT THE SWENSON-ST. JOHN'S COTTAGE NEAR OR ON CASS LAKE

*THE NEWSPAPER ACCOUNT OF THE ECKROTH CASE IN THE ST CLOUD TIMES DATED 17 JUNE

*MY CHART OF FAMILIES AND THE CHILDREN I WILL SEND YOU A TAPE DETAILING SPECIAL INFORMATION ON THE GREEN-STARRED**NAMES

*I HAVE ALSO ATTACHED A COPY OF ABBOT KELLY'S LETTER OF SEPTEMBER 23, 1994. I RESPONDED TO HIS 23RD SEPTEMBER REQUEST BY MEETING WITH THE ABBOT ON THE 4TH OF OCTOBER FROM 2:30 TO APPROXIMATELY 4:00 PM. I HAD ASKED ONE OF OUR EDITORS TO ACCOMPANY ME AS A WITNESS ([REDACTED] HE FATHER OF TWO GIRL VICTIMS) WHILE BRO KELLY RYAN, THE ABBOT'S SECRETARY TOOK NOTES OF THE MEETING. I TOLD THE ABBOT I WOULD BE AN ADVERSE WITNESS AGAINST ECKROTH. THAT I HAD MET WITH THE PREVIOUS ABBOT JEROME THEISEN ON 12 JULY 1982 AND HAD QUESTIONED ABBOT BALDWIN EARLIER. PRESENT AT THE MEETING WITH JEROME THEISEN WAS MY BROTHER, [REDACTED]. I TOLD KELLY THAT I WAS PREPARING A CHART OF FAMILIES FOR YOUR OFFICE AND THAT IF HE WANTED INFORMATION ABOUT MY ALLEGATIONS THAT HE COULD GET IT FROM YOUR OFFICE. I TOLD HIM I WANTED NO FURTHER ST. JOHN'S PRESSURE ON [REDACTED] WHO IS IN AILING, [REDACTED] CENTERED HEALTH. I TOLD HIM THAT IF ECKROTH WALKED AWAY FROM THE [REDACTED] CASE, I PLANNED TO GO STRAIGHT TO THE VARIOUS INVESTIGATIVE MEDIA SOURCES HERE IN THE STATE. I TOLD HIM THAT I HAD BEEN CARRYING THIS WEIGHT FOR SIXTEEN PLUS YEARS AND WANTED TO GET THIS "OUT OF MY SOUL." I TOLD HIM I HAD TOUCHED BASE WITH MY FAMILY DOCTOR AS EARLY AS 1978, I HAD REPORTED MY ALLEGATIONS TO JOHN MCNAMARA OF THE CENTRAL MINNESOTA MENTAL HEALTH CENTER IN THE SAME YEAR. I TOOK MY ANGER TO THAT DOCTOR FOR FIVE-SIX SESSIONS AND WAS TOLD BY MCNAMARA THAT HE HAD PREVIOUSLY TESTED MEMBERS OF THE ST JOHN'S COMMUNITY AND HAD WARNED ST. JOHN'S NOT TO ASSIGN/RE-ASSIGN ECKROTH BECAUSE OF HIS INCLINATIONS. I TOLD SOCIAL WORKERS

OSB ECKROTH_00246

JEFF ANDERSON

AT COUNTY AND REGIONAL HOSPITALS WHO WERE DEALING WITH MY SON'S CARE. I HAD TALKED WITH THE ORIGINAL STEARNS COUNTY INVESTIGATOR (NOW DECEASED), WHOSE COLLECTION OF NOTES, PHOTOGRAPHS FROM ANOTHER FAMILY SEEMED TO HAVE DISAPPEARED OVER THE YEARS. I ALSO TOLD KELLY OUR FAMILY WOULD BE QUITE EASY TO DISCOUNT AS MY WIFE HAD BEEN HOSPITALIZED AND MEDICATED FOR MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS FOR THIRTY OF OUR 35 YEARS OF MARRIAGE. I TOLD HIM THAT NO ONE WOULD PICK UP A PHONE A CALL FOR AN INVESTIGATION OF THIS GUY ECKROTH AND THAT WHEN I HAD GONE TO SEE MY SON'S FORMER SOCIAL WORKER ABOUT ADVICE ON LOCAL MENTAL HEALTH DOCTORS WHO HAD IN-PATIENT STATUS WITH THE LOCAL HOSPITAL THAT THE SOCIAL WORKER HAD SAID TO ME THAT "AFTER READING THE STUFF COMING OUT OF ST JOHN'S RECENTLY, UP HERE WE DON'T THINK YOU'RE SO CRAZY AFTER ALL." I ALSO TOLD THE ABBOT THAT THE PLACEMENT OF DUNSTAN MOORSE IN MY WORKPLACE AS AN EDITOR ON 2 SEPTEMBER HAD AN ADVERSE EFFECT ON MY PERSON AS WELL AS ON THAT OF MY CO-WORKERS, AND THAT I DID NOT WANT TO SEE MOORSE, FINIAN MCDONALD OR ECKROTH FUNCTIONING AT ANY FUTURE TIME AS PRIESTS. I TOLD HIM THAT IF I WAS WRONG ABOUT ECKROTH I COULD NOT MAKE APOLOGIES OR AMENDS IF I LIVED 20 LIFETIMES ON MY KNEES. I BELIEVE I AM RIGHT.

THE ABBOT SAID HE WAS SORRY AND HE NEVER KNEW FOR 15-16 YEARS OF KNOWING ME THAT I HAD CARRIED THIS SORT OF BURDEN.

SOME RECENT CHRONOLOGY.

OCTOBER 20, 1993: TELLS ME "DON'T BE TOO HASTY IN CALLING A LAWYER. I WILL HAVE SOMETHING TO TELL YOU THAT WILL BLOW YOUR MIND." HIS DAUGHTER'S ALLEGATION OF PENETRATION BY ECKROTH

MAY 10, 1994 TELLS ME EWR IN MARYLAND CARE CENTER PRIEST DIRECTOR NAUGHTON CALLS ME INTO OFFICE AND INQUIRES AS TO WHETHER I'D SEE ABBOT KELLY

AND MAY 8TH SEE SAME WEEK, SAYS WANTS TO TALK WITH ME. I SEE AND TELL HIM I BELIEVE HIM AND HIS SONS. NOLITE NON CARBORUNDUM BASTARDI.

MAY 17, 1994 :PRIEST DIRECTOR ASKS THAT I VISIT WITH ABBOT, HIMSELF AND ABBEY-UNIVERSITY PRIEST COUNSELOR (RENE MCGRAW). ASKS "WHAT WOULD PUT MY MIND AT EASE?" I TELL HIM A CONFRONTATION WITH EWR, A SON WITH A WHOLE MIND, THAT I WOULD NOT SEE THE ABBEY PEOPLE WITHOUT HAVING LEGAL COUNSEL ALONG

MAY 16/30 LETTER RE EWR

JUNE 10 :WIFE TO HOSPITAL WITH SODE

JUNE 23 :WIFE DISCHARGED TO HOME ON

JULY 10 :WIFE TO U OF M ADULT PSYCH ON

JULY 22 :FAMILY TOLD WIFE HAS THAT IS IRREVERSIBLE-MEDS AND MAR CHECKED-WE MEDICATED PER INSTRUCTIONS 3

JULY 29 :WIFE DISCHARGED FROM U OF M HOSPITAL

NOVEMBER 18, 1994

PAGE 3

CHRONOLOGY

AUGUST 10-17, 1994: REENTERS U OF M HOSPITAL-DISORIENTATION
NOW TOTALLY PARANOID
SEPTEMBER 1-9 : WIFE IN ST. CLOUD HOSPITAL THEN WRTC
SEPT 28 : ABBOT KELLY LETTER "NO RETALIATION"
SEPT 30 : RECEIVED NOTICE OF JOB BEING CUT RESPONSIBILITY
WIFE IN REGARD CONVENTION TRAFFIC- IT TOOK 1964-
1994 TO GET SOME HELP...THIRD TIME I'VE HAD A
DEPARTMENT MADE OF MY PERSONAL WORK
OCTOBER 2 : LETTER TO KIDS & FAMILY RE 28 SEPTEMBER LETTER
OCTOBER 4 : VISIT WITH ABBOT KELLY
OCTOBER 10-14 : WANTS QUESTIONS WITH VISIT TO KELLY
OCTOBER 31 : ABBOT KELLY'S 2ND LETTER...ABSOLUTELY TURNED
CONVERSATION 180 DEGREES. I WILL NOT HELP
ST. JOHN'S LAWYERS DEFEND EWR
CALLS IN REGARD EWR POLYGRAPH QUESTIONS-UP ALL
NIGHT
NOVEMBER 1 : QUESTIONS PREPARED-COPY TO
THAT I AM TO TELL NO ONE OF PLANNED POLYGRAPH WITH EWR
AS "IT COULD SCARE HIM OFF" DOES NOT WANT ME TO SEE
AS SHE IS DEPRESSED THIS TIME OF YEAR
44+ NAMES ON LIST/HALF ARE HOSPITALIZED OR HANGING ON
OR DECEASED
NOVEMBER 16 : DO SPECIAL ACCOUNTS OF C.P./JOHN MCNAMARA FOR ANDERSON
WE NEED A LAWYER IF NOT FOR
NOVEMBER 17 : SEE WIFE'S SOCIAL WORKER
: SAW DOUG PEARCE WITH STEARNS SHERIFF OFFICE. HE CANNOT
TELL ME IF THE POLYGRAPH WENT OFF OR NOT, OR
WHETHER EWR PASSED /FAILED. CONFIDENTIAL

JEFF, IT WOULD DO MY ENTIRE OUTLOOK SO MUCH GOOD TO SEE YOU
GET A WIN FOR THE FAMILY. I WILL FOLLOW UP WITH A TAPE
ON A LESS-THAN-WILLING WITNESS, ON MCNAMARA, AND SOME OF THESE KIDS,
AND MY RECALL OF THE 1982 MEETING WITH JEROME THEISEN IN REGARD BOTH
ECKROTH AND MCDONALD.

I WILL NOT RESPOND TO THE ABBOT'S LETTER OF THE 31ST. IF YOU CAN'T
TAKE OUR CASE AFTER THE FAMILY, THEN PLEASE SUGGEST AN ALTERNATE
LA!

TEL:

OSB ECKROTH_00248

SUBPOENA (ORDER TO APPEAR)

UCF-16 (SCAO 8/91)
Subpoena (Criminal, Civil, Deposition, Duces Tecum)

M.S. 367.22 & 367.24

State of Minnesota		District Court	
COUNTY STEARNS		JUDICIAL DISTRICT SEVENTH	CASE NO. 03-00117
PLAINTIFF JOE JOE JOE		DEFENDANT BISHOP OF ST. BENOICT ST. AL.	
WITNESS NAME _____ ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DEPOSITION NOTE: Rule 45.04 of Rules of Civil Procedure requires proof of service of notice to take a deposition prior to issuing a subpoena for a deposition.	
You are hereby commanded to appear as a witness to give testimony on the date, time and place indicated below, and from time to time thereafter as may be required.		<input type="checkbox"/> DUCES TECUM You are commanded to produce the following items, records, or documents: Any and all records, documents and writings, charts, diaries and journals of any type and nature in your possession or subject to your control or available to you which relate to studies, investigations, and accumulations of data and information prepared and compiled by you relating to suspected sexual abuse and sexual improprieties on the part of Fr. Richard Eckroth and any personnel and members of St. John's Abbey, St. John's University and their affiliated or subsidiary organizations.	
DATE	December 20, 1994		
TIME	1:00 p.m.		
ADDRESS	Abbot Alcuin Conf. Room Great Hall St. John's University Collegeville, MN		
WITNESS FOR	<input type="checkbox"/> PLAINTIFF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DEFENDANT		
TYPE OF CASE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CIVIL <input type="checkbox"/> CRIMINAL <input type="checkbox"/> JUVENILE		
Person requesting subpoena	Name Jerome R. Klukas		
Optional	Upon receipt of this subpoena, please call: Jerome R. Klukas (612) 338-8623 collect		
<input type="checkbox"/> SCHEDULE ATTACHED			
WARNING: FAILURE TO OBEY A SUBPOENA WITHOUT BEING EXCUSED IS A CONTEMPT OF COURT.			
WITNESS		_____ Administrator of the above named Court, and the seal thereof this _____ day of _____, 19__	
(SEAL)		_____ Court Administrator _____ Deputy	
COURT'S AUTHORIZATION FOR PAYMENT			
I certify that the person named above is entitled by law to \$ _____ (_____) for attendance as a witness in the above named case.			
Date _____		Deputy _____	

White-Original-Return to Court with proof of service

Yellow-Witness' copy

Pink-Court file copy

OSB ECKROTH_00287

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OSB ECKROTH_00288

ATTORNEY-CLIENT/WORK PRODUCT

OSB ECKROTH_00289

ATTORNEY-CLIENT/WORK PRODUCT

OSB ECKROTH_00290

ATTORNEY-CLIENT/WORK PRODUCT

OSB ECKROTH_00291

ATTORNEY-CLIENT/WORK PRODUCT

OSB ECKROTH_00293

filed

MEMORANDUM

TO: File

FROM: Abbot Timothy Kelly, O.S.B.

RE:

DATE: December 22, 1994

came to see me at 8:40 A.M. today, talked for about 25 minutes concerning his tapes and charts that he left with me. He told me about the four hour interview with the lawyers the other day and reiterated some of his story. He at one point referred to his son, , hospital charts as using the word "paranoia". He also said one of his daughters came up with her story in 1990, the other in 1992. He told of his son being a suspect in a murder involving whatever hospital he was in at the time (Brainerd State Hospital?). When referring to a meeting in 1982 with Abbot Jerome he said he recalled that there was a couch in the office (indicating the west wall) and a coffee table (pointing in the direction) over against where the desk is now. [I was here from 1980 on and never was there a couch in this office.] He also claimed to have talked with Fr. Preston Moss at the time the bishops' meeting was here (1983?) and then with his bishop whom he got to go over to the Press to talk with him. The Bahama bishop possibly could have been here at that time, but highly unlikely since he is not a member of the U.S. bishops conference.

OSB ECKROTH_00294

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OSB ECKROTH_00295

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OSB ECKROTH_00296



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Local bishop offers report on priests who molest juveniles

Kinney tells colleagues such clerics can return to different work

GANNETT NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON - Priests with records of sexual abuse may be permitted to return to work in the Catholic church after they undergo therapy, bishops said Tuesday, but not in assignments involving children.

"Our first concern is that we are not putting children at risk," said Bishop John Kinney, head of the St. Cloud, Minn., Diocese. Kinney also heads the national bishops' conference on sexual abuse.

The first priests caught in sexual-abuse scandals that started in the 1980s and spread nationwide have gone through therapy, Kinney said. Now, the U.S. bishops' conference seeks to formalize standards guiding diocesan bishops.

But clearly, the leaders of the U.S. church aren't certain how to handle priests who abuse and later are pronounced fit for duty.

Kinney's committee report gave no estimates on recidivism — the rate that pedophile priests can be expected to relapse into old behavior patterns. It also noted most "priest-offenders" technically are not pedophiles but ephebophiles — sexually attracted to post-pubescent juveniles rather than to children.

Many experts distinguish between the two forms of mental illness, said the report. Indications are "arrested social and psychosexual development that is manifested by most ephebophiles is far more likely to be treated effectively than the severe psychopathology motivating predatory pedophiles," according to the Rev. James Gill, a Jesuit priest and doctor. The sexual abuse committee's report

also detailed for the bishops the performance of some of the 40 U.S. treatment centers that handle priest-abusers. It offered no ratings of the centers, but shared bishops' assessments of them.

St. Luke Institute in Suitland, Md., was used by 81 dioceses for assessment and by 61 dioceses for treatment — more than any other. It got generally positive ratings. The Servants of the Paraclete center in St. Louis was used by 35 dioceses.



John Kinney
BISHOP OF
ST. CLOUD DIOCESE

"If ever there was a time we need higher standards, it's now," he said.

Kinney also said he doubted U.S. dioceses will lose hundreds of millions of dollars as a result of lawsuits, as has been reported. "There's a great discrepancy between the figures alleged in the suits and the actual court cases and settlements. The figures you hear and the actual results are far different."

Nearly three years into his assignment as one of the U.S. church's point men on sexual abuse by priests, Kinney called it a "great growing experience" but one that "frequently saddened" him.

"I'm convinced the church can do a better job on dealing with human sexuality. It's made me much more realistic about what we need to do."

■ Bishops deny budget showdown/14A

QUESTIONS: DID THE BISHOPS' COMMITTEE LEARN A SINGLE THING FROM THE GAUTHE CASE IN BAYON ROUGE OR THE SHEWOOD CASE IN PHOENIX? WHO SCREENS THE PROFESSIONALS WHO ADVISE THE KINNEY COMMITTEE? WHAT IS THE RATE OF RECIDIVISM FOR THOSE PRE/PRE/POST PUBESCENT PERPS WHO ARE PLACED BACK INTO THE DIOCESES AND PARISHES? WHAT WAS TO BE DONE WITH THE PRE-PUBESCENT PEDOPHILES (PREDATORS)?

WHEN A MINISTER WITH AN EPHEBOPHILE HISTORY IS NEWLY-ASSIGNED WHO IS THE RESPONSIBLE PARTY TO MONITOR THE ACTIONS OF THE EX-PERP? THE PASTOR? A PANEL OF LAY-PERSONS? WHY IS THERE NOT AN INTERNET PAGE TRACKING THESE PEOPLE FROM "UNASSIGNED" TO ASSIGNED? WHAT IS THE COMMITTEE'S POLICY TOWARD THE PERP WHO IS GIVEN TO INTERGENERATIONAL SEXUAL CONTACT? WHAT KIND OF MAN WOULD USE HIS CONSECRATED HANDS TO PREY ON THE VULNERABLE AND THEN PICK UP A HOST OR WINE CUP IN THE ACT OF CONSECRATION? OR ANOINTING, OR PREACHING? WHAT KIND OF MEN ARE THESE THAT CAN RISK PLACING A PERP BACK INTO THE PARISH COMMUNITIES? HOW DO THESE BISHOPS SLEEP AT NIGHT? WHEN A PERP RELAPSES, SHOULD NOT THE BISHOP WHO ASSIGNED THE INDIVIDUAL AND BEING AWARE OF THE PERP'S HISTORY, AND/OR THE THERAPIST WHO RECOMMENDS RE-ASSIGNMENT ALSO SHARE CULPABILITY?

"But, the church needs it's priests..."

ATTORNEY-CLIENT/WORK PRODUCT

OSB ECKROTH_00298

ATTORNEY-CLIENT/WORK PRODUCT

OSB ECKROTH_00299

ATTORNEY-CLIENT/WORK PRODUCT

OSB ECKROTH_00300

ATTORNEY-CLIENT/WORK PRODUCT

OSB ECKROTH_00301

SUBPOENA
(ORDER TO APPEAR)

G-SUB
UCF-16 (SCAO 8/93)

M.S. 357.22 & 357.24

State of Minnesota		District Court	
COUNTY <u>Stearns</u>		JUDICIAL DISTRICT <u>Seventh</u>	CASE NO. <u>01-97-2194</u>
PLAINTIFF <u>John Doe 10A,</u>		DEFENDANT <u>The Order of St. Benedict of the Roman Catholic Church, a/k/a Father Richard Eckroth</u>	
VS		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DEPOSITION	
WITNESS _____ _____ _____ ZIP _____		NOTE: Rule 45.04 of Rules of Civil Procedure requires proof of service of notice to take a deposition prior to issuing a subpoena for a deposition.	
You are hereby commanded to appear as a witness to give testimony on the date, time and place indicated below, and from time to time thereafter as may be required.		<input type="checkbox"/> DUCES TECUM You are commanded to produce the following items, records, or documents: Any and all records, documents and writings, charts, diaries and journals of any type and nature in your possession or subject to your control or available to you which relate to studies, investigations, and accumulations of data and information prepared and compiled by you relating to suspected sexual abuse and sexual improprieties on the part of Fr. Richard Eckroth and any personnel and members of St. John's Abbey, St. John's University and their affiliated or subsidiary organizations.	
DATE	<u>January 30, 1995</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> SCHEDULE ATTACHED	
TIME	<u>9:30 a.m.</u>		
ADDRESS	<u>1800 Rand Tower 527 Marquette Ave. So. Minneapolis, MN 55402</u>		
WITNESS FOR	<input type="checkbox"/> PLAINTIFF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DEFENDANT		
TYPE OF CASE	<input type="checkbox"/> CIVIL <input type="checkbox"/> CRIMINAL <input type="checkbox"/> JUVENILE		
Person requesting subpoena	Name <u>Jerome R. Klukas</u>		
Optional	Upon receipt of this subpoena, please call: <u>Jerome R. Klukas (612) 338-8623 collect</u>		
WARNING: FAILURE TO OBEY A SUBPOENA WITHOUT BEING EXCUSED IS A CONTEMPT OF COURT.			
WITNESS, <u>Ronald A. Longtin, Jr.</u> , Administrator of the above named Court, and the seal thereof this <u>11th</u> day of <u>January</u> , 19 <u>95</u> .			
(SEAL)		<u>Ronald A. Longtin, Jr.</u> Court Administrator	
		<u>Mary K. York</u> Deputy	
COURT'S AUTHORIZATION FOR PAYMENT			
I certify that the person named above is entitled by law to \$ _____ (_____) for attendance as a witness in the above named case.			
Date _____		Deputy _____	

White-Original-Return to Court with proof of service

Yellow-Witness' copy

Pink-Court file copy

OSB ECKROTH_00302

ATTORNEY-CLIENT/WORK PRODUCT

OSB ECKROTH_00303

ATTORNEY-CLIENT/WORK PRODUCT

OSB ECKROTH_00304

ATTORNEY-CLIENT/WORK PRODUCT

OSB ECKROTH_00305

ATTORNEY-CLIENT/WORK PRODUCT

OSB ECKROTH_00306

ATTORNEY-CLIENT/WORK PRODUCT

OSB ECKROTH_00307

ATTORNEY-CLIENT/WORK PRODUCT

OSB ECKROTH_00308

ATTORNEY-CLIENT/WORK PRODUCT

OSB ECKROTH_00309

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 7</p> <p>1 my father was giving a deposition in regards to 2 Richard Eckroth, it was startling to see the 3 man. And I've had probably 14 days of on and 4 off crying and concern that perhaps something 5 else happened. I do not know at this time. I 6 am in the process of trying to find a therapist 7 to help me walk through this. And at present I 8 do not have that person. I'm not under a 9 therapist's guidance at this time. 10 Q. Have you discussed the situation with your 11 minister? 12 A. To a certain point, yes. 13 Q. That would be Pastor Moss? 14 A. Susan Moss. 15 Q. She was here for awhile today during your dad's 16 deposition? 17 A. Correct. 18 Q. When did you first become aware that your 19 father suspected Father Richard had abused any 20 member of your family? 21 A. Boy, that is a real difficult question. 22 Throughout my growing up years this question of 23 whether Eckroth abused my brother has been 24 talked about within our family. I cannot 25 specifically pinpoint a certain day, or what</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 10</p> <p>1 lost the particular round, or whatever, was to 2 change into tights, like kind of sheer tights. 3 I don't know if they were red tights or black 4 tights or blue tights. And in those -- the 5 tights came from this box, this chest of -- 6 that's where it was, like behind the front door 7 of the cabin there was a box and that's where I 8 believe the tights came from. 9 Q. What kind of a box was it, a wooden one, 10 cardboard or -- 11 A. I cannot be sure of that. 12 Q. If someone lost would they have to put on 13 clothes? 14 MS. It was called winning. 15 THE WITNESS: I recall having to put 16 on the tights. Now, I don't know whether or 17 not Eckroth put them on us. I do not know at 18 this time. 19 BY MR. KLUKAS: 20 Q. how many times do you remember playing 21 this game? 22 A. Specifically one time. 23 Q. How many other children were there in your 24 recollection? 25 A. I know was there, I know</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 8</p> <p>1 have you. But, in writing this statement that 2 was the first that I actually started to chat 3 with various friends who were also at that 4 cabin to verify my memory and to see if their 5 stories were the same. 6 Q. Now, in Exhibit 1 is it correct that you 7 recount your personal memories plus information 8 that you had secured from your friends who you 9 were aware had gone to that cabin? 10 A. There are some things in my statement here that 11 are comments from other people. And I could 12 pinpoint that for you. 13 Q. Okay. Why don't we go down starting with the 14 first page then, . . . And I'll ask that, 15 first of all, you relate to us the information 16 that came to you as your own firsthand memory? 17 A. Should I go ahead and read the statement? 18 Q. Go ahead and read your firsthand 19 recollections. 20 A. I can remember going to the cabin with a number 21 of other kids my age -- similar to my age. I'm 22 uncertain of how many times I went to this 23 cabin, as well as my age and the years, 1970, 24 whatever, I don't know specifically. I do 25 recall that one time was in the summer because</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 11</p> <p>1 was there. And I know 2 was there. I believe was 3 there. My sister And 4 probably and I am not 5 sure of those two being there. 6 Q. And about how old were you in that 7 recollection? 8 A. I would imagine probably about 10 or 12. 9 Q. Was Father Richard there in your recollection 10 of that game? 11 A. Yes, definitely. 12 Q. Where was he? 13 A. He was in and around that circle. 14 Q. What was he doing during the game? 15 A. I believe he was the manipulator of that game, 16 the person to continue it on. 17 Q. Was he actually playing the game himself or 18 someone who was running the game? 19 A. I believe so. I believe he was playing the 20 game as well because I recall, at one time I 21 recall, that he himself had a pair of these 22 tights on. 23 Q. As you were playing the game or starting to 24 play the game how were you and the other 25 children dressed?</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 9</p> <p>1 I remember running down to the lake through the 2 woods. And I can remember one time in the 3 winter because I remember the snow. And I 4 remember being encouraged to roll in the snow 5 after one of these saunas. 6 The kids that I went with, and I can 7 add names to who I remembered was with this 8 group of kids, were myself, my sister her 9 friend my good friend 10 my other good friend 11 and and the girls, 12 and I cannot be sure 13 that they were there, but I believe so, as well 14 and possibly but I can 15 -- I can't be sure of those two names. 16 I can recall being in the cabin 17 sitting around a circle and playing "games" 18 that this man would have us play, similar to 19 strip poker or spin the bottle. 20 Q. Let's stop there. The game that's similar to 21 strip poker, tell us specifically what you 22 remember that game involved? 23 A. I know that we were in a circle and I know that 24 there were -- I believe that there was a 25 spin-the-bottle type of thing. And whoever</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 12</p> <p>1 A. Boy, I don't recall. I guess I'm assuming we 2 were all clothed, but I don't know. I can't be 3 sure. 4 Q. Do you know if this occasion when you were -- 5 this game was being played if that was in the 6 summer or the winter? 7 A. I believe it was in the winter. I can't be a 8 hundred percent sure of that. But, I remember 9 that the wood stove was always stoked in the 10 cabin. So I guess I'm concluding that that 11 would be a wintertime thing. 12 Q. Now, tell us how this game progressed according 13 to your memory? 14 A. As far as I remember the bottle was spun. 15 Whoever it landed on was the person to go and 16 try on these tights. And then, I believe, come 17 back to the circle, but I don't know. 18 Q. And at that time or at least even at the 19 present you are not sure if Father Richard was 20 involved in putting on these outfits? 21 A. I believe he was. I feel a -- I have a 22 recollection that he was wearing some black 23 tights or see-through kinds of tights. 24 Q. What else was he wearing in that recollection? 25 A. I don't know.</p>

<p>Page 13</p> <p>1 Q. In terms of one of the children, if the child 2 was designated by however you would designate, 3 would the child put on the tights themselves? 4 A. I don't know. I don't know whether he put them 5 on us or whether we would put them on our own 6 bodies. I don't recall that a hundred percent. 7 Q. Is it accurate, that your memory or 8 recollection of this game is that it involved 9 people putting on tights as opposed to people 10 taking off clothing? 11 A. Well, you would have to take clothing off in 12 order to have the tights put on. In order to 13 put the tights on your body you would obviously 14 have to take off your jeans or what have you to 15 put them on. 16 Q. Do you have a specific recollection of people 17 taking off their clothing to put on these 18 tights? 19 A. I don't believe so. 20 Q. Do you have any recollection of anyone being 21 naked during this game playing? 22 A. I think that I really don't remember. And that 23 is why after seeing this man on the 20th it 24 shook me. It angered me and unsettled me. I 25 want to obtain a therapist, a reputable</p>	<p>Page 16</p> <p>1 do you remember going into a sauna with Father 2 Richard Eckroth? 3 A. Yes. 4 Q. How many recollections do you have of going 5 into a sauna with Father Richard? 6 A. Specifically I remember one time. I don't know 7 if there are other times. 8 Q. Tell us what you remember about the one time 9 that you're able to recall for sure? 10 A. I remember going into the little entryway of 11 this sauna and kind of waiting there. I don't 12 know why we were waiting in this entryway, but 13 maybe that was under the direction of Eckroth 14 for us to wait outside of the actual sauna 15 room. 16 Q. Where was the sauna located? 17 A. Up at Cass Lake. 18 Q. There was a cabin at this place? 19 A. Yes. That's where the game, the tight stuff, 20 happened at the cabin. 21 Q. Where was the sauna in relationship to the 22 cabin? 23 A. It was -- the sauna was somewhat I believe up 24 on -- or, I'm certain the cabin was somewhat up 25 on a hill and just 20 to 30 steps down this</p>
<p>Page 14</p> <p>1 therapist, who will walk me through that 2 incident forward. 3 Q. Have you ever seen a therapist before? 4 A. I have seen a couple different therapists over 5 the years. One my husband and I saw at the 6 Indian Health Board. And another around that 7 time and ceased seeing her because she was not 8 the type of therapist I wanted to see. She was 9 more a new-age type of therapist and that does 10 not go along with my beliefs. 11 Q. This therapist that you and your husband saw, 12 was that for purposes related to your belief 13 that Father Richard had at least possibly 14 exploited you? 15 MS. KUGLER: I think that this 16 witness should be aware she does have a 17 privilege. She's not a plaintiff in any case 18 and hasn't waived anything. I'm not advising 19 you one way or the other, but I think that you 20 do have a right to be aware that you do have a 21 medical privilege. And information you share 22 in a confidential setting with your therapist 23 is privileged information. And you can waive 24 that if you want. It's totally up to you. 25 But, you do have a right to.</p>	<p>Page 17</p> <p>1 hill was the sauna. 2 Q. So that would have been a separate building? 3 A. Yes. 4 Q. How big was the sauna? 5 A. I would say not more than 10 by 15. I don't 6 know exactly. 7 MS. About a quarter of this 8 room. 9 MR. STICH: You refuse to give your 10 deposition. I suggest that you not coach this 11 witness. Maybe we could get along with just 12 one person testifying. 13 THE WITNESS: I'm not exactly sure of 14 the dimensions of this sauna. As you know 15 saunas tend to be small. But, I can't give you 16 specifics as to exactly how big that sauna 17 was. 18 BY MR. KLUKAS: 19 Q. Have you been in saunas on occasions other than 20 being in the sauna up by this lake with Father 21 Richard? 22 A. I have at various hotel stays over the years. 23 And quite frankly I get claustrophobic in 24 saunas. It kind of scares me to be in a sauna. 25 Q. On that one occasion that you remember,</p>
<p>Page 15</p> <p>1 THE WITNESS: I think I will not 2 waive that. Those conversations were 3 privileged conversations between my husband and 4 I and some difficulties we were going through. 5 BY MR. KLUKAS: 6 Q. It had nothing to do with Father Richard, as 7 far as you know? 8 A. No. 9 Q. My question is bad. Did those discussions with 10 the therapist have anything to do with Father 11 Richard? 12 A. I'm again going to say in essence I believe the 13 core of some of my issues come down to that man 14 over there. 15 Q. At the time you saw the therapist did you 16 mention Father Richard as being a possible 17 reason for your problems? 18 A. I believe I mentioned that my brother was 19 molested by a priest. I don't believe that I 20 mentioned his name. I don't know if I did. 21 Q. When did you see this therapist? 22 A. Gosh, I would have to say it had to have been 23 three or four years ago. I don't know specific 24 dates 25 Q. if we could return to Exhibit 1. And</p>	<p>Page 18</p> <p>1 , did you actually go in the sauna? 2 A. Yes. 3 Q. Were you claustrophobic at that time? 4 A. I don't recall that I was by any means. It was 5 just we had an activity to go and do along with 6 the other kids and Eckroth. 7 Q. On that occasion that you recall who was in the 8 sauna? 9 A. I specifically recall my friend my 10 sister. Another person that 11 runs in my beau right now is 12 who is a cousin of and 13 She was also there. I am not certain whether 14 or not and and those 15 boys, if they were there. I don't know 16 if they were in with us at the same time. I 17 can't specifically say that they were in the 18 same sauna at the same time. 19 Q. According to your recollection what time of the 20 year was the sauna? 21 A. I believe -- factually I remember in the 22 winter. As far as the summertime running down 23 to -- I remember summertime we must have taken 24 saunas because I can remember running through 25 the woods down to the lake to in the water</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 19</p> <p>1 where Richard encouraged us to take our 2 clothing off. He encouraged us in the water to 3 skinny dip. And I can remember being very 4 frightened and kind of sticking close to my 5 friend and my sister. 6 Q. Did you ever remove your clothing? 7 A. I recall that he encouraged us to take our 8 clothing off our tops and our bottoms. I don't 9 know if I took my clothing off or not 10 specifically at this time. That's one of the 11 things I want to try and determine. 12 Q. At what point in the sauna did he, in your 13 recollection, did he suggest or ask that you 14 take off your clothing? 15 A. I believe right as we were waiting in that 16 entryway to get into the sauna. That is where 17 he said, "It's okay, you can take your clothes 18 off. It's all right." 19 Q. At this point in time as we're talking are you 20 still only having the recollection of the one 21 occasion? 22 A. I believe so, yes. 23 Q. On that occasion did Father Richard sauna with 24 you and the other children? 25 A. Yes.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 22</p> <p>1 A. Yes. There were benches in the sauna. And I 2 remember, I can remember the heat of these 3 benches. Like there was a bench and then a 4 footrest bench so you would sit up on the top 5 and your feet would be on the bottom. And in 6 the corner was the area where the rocks were. 7 And I can remember throwing water onto the 8 rocks to get the steam to make the rocks 9 hotter. 10 Q. Were there more than one -- was there more than 11 one level of benches? 12 A. I believe there was a level to sit on or lay 13 down on and a level to rest your feet on and 14 then the ground floor. 15 Q. What was the ground floor made up of? 16 A. I believe it was, I can't be sure, either like 17 a wooden plank or a dirt floor. I don't know 18 specifically a hundred percent. 19 Q. Then in terms of the place where these 20 rocks were, was there like a stove thing or an 21 open pit or how was it? 22 A. It was like it -- I believe it was an open pit 23 with just rocks on top of it. And I remember, 24 I can remember walking past and being really 25 afraid of being, you know, touching it and</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 20</p> <p>1 Q. How was he dressed? 2 A. I believe I remember him to be in like a black 3 -- a tight, black Speedo swim suit, one that 4 hugged his body closely. I don't know if you 5 want me to give other peoples' recollections of 6 what they remember him in. 7 Q. Why don't you tell us what you recall on your 8 own. 9 A. I recall the black -- some sort of black bottom 10 on and I think it was a Speedo swim suit. And 11 I don't know if I had that -- I have that 12 recollection messed up in my head with the 13 tights hugging his body so close or not. 14 Q. At any time then in your recollection was 15 Father Richard nude? 16 A. I don't remember whether he was or not. I hope 17 to remember, but I cannot be a hundred percent 18 sure of that. 19 Q. At any time during the sauna or at any time at 20 all that you can remember anyplace did Father 21 Richard ever expose himself? 22 A. I don't remember whether he did or not. I 23 don't know if I've blocked anything, I don't 24 know. 25 Q. At any time during these saunas did Father</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 23</p> <p>1 getting burned. 2 Q. How was this fire fed for this thing? 3 A. I don't know. I mean, maybe there is a stove 4 in there, I don't know. I can't recall 5 everything. 6 Q. whenever you want to take a break feel 7 free to let me or whoever is questioning you 8 know. I know you want to get home to your 9 family, that's why I'm continuing. 10 A. That's okay. I'll let you know. 11 Q. Is there anything else that you remember about 12 what went on in the sauna building itself? 13 A. I can remember the smell of sweaty people, 14 sweaty priest. I don't know, I can't remember 15 anything else at this time. 16 Q. Do you remember any games or singing or 17 talking? 18 A. I just remember him encouraging us to take our 19 clothes off and that it was all right to take 20 our clothing off. And that he would be more 21 than happy to give us a back rub. And as I 22 said before, I don't know if that included a 23 buttocks rub or any sort of penetration. I do 24 not know. I cannot be a hundred percent 25 certain. This is why I want to see a therapist</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 21</p> <p>1 Richard ever touch you in any way? 2 A. I can recall a back massage. I do not know if 3 that included a buttocks massage or not. But, 4 after I saw him on the 20th of December I guess 5 my gut tells me something might have happened 6 there, but I can't be a hundred percent sure. 7 I want to try and remember, damn it. 8 Q. are we still talking about the same 9 single recollection that you had? 10 A. Yes. 11 Q. At the time of that sauna how many kids were in 12 there with you and Richard? 13 A. I believe my sister 14 I don't know if the 15 girls were there with us or not. And 16 I'm not sure if the boys who were with us on 17 that particular weekend were in the sauna with 18 us as well. I don't know specifically. 19 Q. Do you remember how crowded it was in the 20 sauna? 21 A. Yeah. 22 Q. How crowded was it? 23 A. It was crowded. 24 Q. Was there anyplace in the sauna where you could 25 stretch out?</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 24</p> <p>1 who deals with this because it frightened me to 2 see this man on the 20th of December and it 3 frightens me to see him right now. 4 Q. did you understand that your father 5 had requested that Father Richard be present 6 for his deposition? 7 A. I had no knowledge that Father Richard would be 8 at the deposition of the 20th. It was shocking 9 for me to see him there. And I guess it's -- I 10 guess that's why I haven't really focused on 11 Eckroth as the perpetrator of things that have 12 happened to me because I guess I wanted to keep 13 it out of my mind, I don't know. 14 Q. Is it true at this time, that you 15 don't know if you were ever sexually harmed or 16 abused? 17 A. Yes, I don't know specifically whether he 18 rubbed my buttocks or penetrated me or 19 threatened me. I don't know that right now. 20 Q. As far as you can recall how long has it been 21 in your lifetime that your dad has asked you 22 whether or not you had ever been improperly 23 touched by Father Richard? 24 A. Father -- the focus has always been on the fact 25 that my brother had made these claims. And our</p>

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1 family has been dealing with a mom who didn't
 2 have the capacity to be well and to be a care
 3 giver. So my dad tried to hold us all together
 4 and be the backbone of our family.
 5 And I think he did that pretty well,
 6 except my brother has fallen through the
 7 cracks. And my brother, I talked to him the
 8 other day. He relays the fact that he doesn't
 9 want to talk about this, he doesn't want to
 10 speak about this at all. And I said to him
 11 everybody in our family wants your healing,
 12 everybody wants you to know you have a safe
 13 place to tell your story. And he is
 14 unfortunately incapacitated because of his drug
 15 use history, his mental illness onslaught and
 16 his denial of the things that went on.
 17 Q. Has your brother denied that it was ever
 18 -- he was ever sexually abused?
 19 A. He has denied that.
 20 Q. But, you don't believe his denial?
 21 A. I do not believe his denial.
 22 Q. On what basis do you disbelieve his denial?
 23 A. Because I was molested by him.
 24 Q. By him?
 25 A. By

And I

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1 would not lie about something that traumatic.
 2 Q. when did that take place?
 3 A. As far as I know I believe I was probably 10 or
 4 11, I don't know. I don't know specifically
 5 how old I was. Maybe I was younger.
 6 Q. Did you report that to anyone at the time it
 7 took place?
 8 A. No, I didn't tell anyone about that horrible
 9 circumstance until I told my elder sister
 10 in, oh, gosh, years ago when we were preparing
 11 to move from our apartment that my husband and
 12 I lived in to our home where we now reside
 13 because of the fact that my sister was starting
 14 to go bring up these memories.
 15 My sister said, you know, "Can
 16 you believe this? I mean, who would believe
 17 this story?" And I told my sister that I
 18 believe my sister because I was threatened
 19 by my brother and and I don't
 20 believe that he could be capable of that type
 21 of behavior had it not been imposed upon him.
 22 Q. So your discussions with are what resulted
 23 in your relating to her what your brother had
 24 done?
 25 A. Yes, because I was told if I say anything,

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1 "I'll beat you"
 2 Q. That's what had told you?
 3 A. Yes. He covered my mouth and said that. Now I
 4 don't think that my brother -- he denies that
 5 ever happening. He also denies the fact that
 6 anything happened with Richard Eckroth. I
 7 believe he was a victim of that man's actions,
 8 but he has no one to talk to about it. He
 9 doesn't have the capacity to deal with it and
 10 he's in a deep denial.
 11 I have come to a point in my healing
 12 of being able to forgive my brother for the
 13 wrongs he's caused me. And I want to be as
 14 supportive of him as I can to help him know
 15 that the shame and the stigma and the grief is
 16 real and that he's not alone in this. And I
 17 wouldn't lie about a horrific story like that.
 18 Q. is it correct that your sister
 19 has maintained that she was never abused by
 20 Father Richard?
 21 A. Yes, my sister is four years, five years,
 22 older. I'm not even sure how old. She's four
 23 or five years older than me. has been
 24 like a mom to me. I've always looked up to
 25 her. And she's -- I don't believe that Eckroth

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1 had the ability to manipulate the older kids
 2 because they were able to perhaps defend
 3 themselves or --
 4 Q. Your sister you've indicated has stated to
 5 you that she was abused by Father Richard, is
 6 that correct?
 7 A. At this time I don't want to talk about any
 8 comments that my sister has made to me because
 9 I believe that my sister is in a real
 10 fragile state and needs to consult with a
 11 therapist and a lawyer. And I guard that as
 12 her privilege and --
 13 Q. Without getting into the particulars of what
 14 told you about her relationship or
 15 involvement with Father Richard, when did she
 16 first tell you that something had happened
 17 between her and Father Richard?
 18 A. My first knowledge of that she felt that he
 19 had his hands between her thighs was when I
 20 read this document that she sent at the same
 21 time that I wrote a document out. She did not
 22 share that information. The only things that
 23 we had discussed, I guess, in just, you know,
 24 just talking sister to sister were the
 25 weirdness of this priest and the strange

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1 activities or the -- now as an adult I see them
 2 as strange activities. As a child I guess I
 3 was too young to know.
 4 MR. Let's take a break.
 5 (At this time a brief recess
 6 was taken.)
 7 BY MR. KLUKAS:
 8 Q. , I'm showing you Exhibit 2. That's a
 9 letter directed to you from your sister
 10 correct?
 11 A. Correct.
 12 Q. The first time when I had asked you about your
 13 sister's relationship to Father Richard I had
 14 used her words off her letter, correct?
 15 A. Yeah, I see that. I understand also that in
 16 sexual abuse circumstances this word
 17 relationship is a really -- I guess a real
 18 tender word because it -- to me I guess we need
 19 to stress, I need to stress, victimization
 20 rather than relationship. And that's real
 21 important to my sister. And when she gives her
 22 deposition, when she's been through therapy and
 23 has had counsel from a reputable therapist and
 24 lawyer, then she can define that for you.
 25 Q. Well, for purposes of your testimony,

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1 do you understand that that's how I chose that
 2 word relationship? I just chose it because
 3 that's what your sister had indicated.
 4 A. I understand that.
 5 Q. I didn't mean anything else.
 6 A. That's fine.
 7 Q. Exhibit 4 is -- or, excuse me, Exhibit 2, your
 8 sister's letter to you, I just want to make
 9 sure, it's four pages long?
 10 A. Four, yes, correct.
 11 Q. Is Exhibit 2 a complete copy of the letter that
 12 your sister provided as far as you can recall?
 13 A. As far as I can recall, yeah. Yes, sir.
 14 Q. Has your sister provided you any subsequent or
 15 prior letters about the subject of Father
 16 Richard Eckroth?
 17 A. No, she has not.
 18 Q. Thank you. Getting back to your letter. You
 19 indicate at page 2 that you and your friend
 20 stayed away from Father Richard. Do you
 21 have a specific recollection of distancing
 22 yourself from Father Richard at all times when
 23 you were with him or in his presence?
 24 A. My recollection of running down to the lake
 25 after a sauna and jumping in the water was to

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 31</p> <p>1 stay away from him. I don't know if that was 2 kind of an instinctual fear or -- but, I can 3 remember just sticking close to my friend 4 5 Q. Do you have any recollection of any of the 6 children ever being naked in the presence of 7 Father Richard? 8 A. I can't specifically remember whether the kids 9 in the sauna were naked or not. I don't 10 remember specifically. And as far as running 11 down to the lake, I remember jumping in the 12 water and, you know, others, other kids, you 13 know, yeah, we can take our swim suits off or 14 we can take our clothing off. And I guess that 15 stuck with me as, you know, kind of a 16 confusion, you know, why. 17 Q. Do you ever recall any of the kids having their 18 clothing or swim suits off while in the water? 19 A. Another girl who was up at that cabin was 20 and I remember her as being very, 21 you know, loose about her body. And I don't 22 know if that's the correct word, but being very 23 unaffected by doing this. I don't know why 24 that name pops into my head when I think about 25 skinny dipping and in the water or swimming in</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 34</p> <p>1 him into our family's bathtub. I remember it 2 vividly. It was scary. It was not pleasant. 3 So along with that goes the 4 frightened kid who was threatened by this very 5 person, this brother of mine. So there I was 6 not being able to tell anyone what happened to 7 me. And I equate that with the same fear my 8 brother probably had in telling anyone about 9 his circumstance with Eckroth. 10 Q. As far as you know is your mother the only 11 person your brother had told that Father 12 Richard was involved with him improperly? 13 A. I got that information from my dad and he had 14 relayed the story to me that my brother came 15 into the house and talked to my mom about a 16 time he had at the cabin with Eckroth and that 17 he had this massage all over. And that's the 18 knowledge that I have of my brother, the 19 recollection or statement about this. 20 Q. Was it shortly after the time that your brother 21 had been hospitalized that your dad told you 22 these things about your brother and Father 23 Richard? 24 A. I don't specifically remember when I was told 25 about my brother and Richard Eckroth. I can't</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 32</p> <p>1 the water, but her face comes to mind. 2 Q. These saunas incidents, were they 3 during the day or at night or both? 4 A. I don't know if they were in the day. I 5 believe they were at night. And I believe 6 swimming in the lake was at night because I 7 remember, I can remember, being afraid of going 8 into the water, deep into the water, because it 9 was a real mucky bottom on the lake. I was 10 just a kid. 11 Q. Do you recall being up there at least on two 12 occasions, one during the summer and one during 13 the winter? 14 A. Yes, because I remember there is no way we 15 could have been in the lake if it were snowing 16 out. And I don't know, it could have been 17 spring or fall or, you know, I don't know, but 18 it was temperatures equal to being able to run 19 through the woods and jump into a lake. Now, I 20 don't know how cold it was outside or the 21 specific time of the year. I cannot a hundred 22 percent say when that was. 23 Q. So if you went up there twice do you remember 24 having any fear or hesitancy about going up the 25 second time?</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 35</p> <p>1 be certain of that time. All I know is I was 2 dealing horrific threats to me by my brother. 3 And now in my adult years I can see where that 4 threat may have come from on behalf of my 5 brother. I don't believe that he could be that 6 horrible had it not been imposed on him. 7 Q. have you ever reported to St. John's 8 or to anyone connected with St. John's that you 9 believe that you may have been sexually abused 10 or exploited by Father Richard? 11 A. No. I've just given basically my dad the 12 information that I have. And like I said 13 before, after seeing Eckroth at the deposition 14 on the 20th I want to determine through therapy 15 whether or not there was more in that sauna 16 because the fear was there on the 20th. I 17 don't remember whether or not he harmed me in 18 any way at this time other than giving back 19 massages. And I don't know if that included 20 buttocks massage or penetration. 21 Q. do you have any belief or information 22 that Father Richard Eckroth or any monk or 23 other person involved with St. John's sexually 24 abused or exploited 25 A. I do not have personal knowledge. I remember</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 33</p> <p>1 A. Not that I can recall. I don't know if I -- I 2 think I just kind of went along with the flow 3 of things. I don't know, I guess I looked to 4 my sister and my friend in particular as, 5 you know, people to watch over me. Since they 6 were going it would be okay for me to go. 7 Q. Do you ever remember feeling any fear about 8 going up to this cabin? 9 A. I guess the only thing I can recall is when -- 10 that type of fear is just being kind of wary of 11 Eckroth. Just kind of, I guess, instinctually 12 keeping my distance if I could. I guess that's 13 the best recollection I can give you. And I 14 guess my belief in after seeing him on the 20th 15 of December at my dad's deposition it was 16 frightening to me and since then I've been 17 rocked about this and scared and crying a lot. 18 Q. Is it true that for the last 16 years or so 19 you've been told or led to believe that Father 20 Richard had abused your brother? 21 A. That was kind of our family discussion that -- 22 when my brother flipped out on drugs I remember 23 the day he did. And I remember the day that 24 he, my dad, brought him home from a drunken 25 stupor with excrement all over himself and put</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 36</p> <p>1 and and 2 because they rode on the same bus that I rode 3 on through junior high and high school. And I 4 was actually -- I can remember, you know, being 5 friends with them. And they were nice young 6 men, nice, always courteous to me. But, I've 7 never spoken with them. I would like to be 8 able to get together with all of these people 9 that have been up there just as a support 10 system because this is horrendous. 11 Q. You've been listed as a witness in the 12 case, I believe. So I was wondering if 13 you had any personal knowledge of any 14 involvement? 15 A. No, I don't know what their case is. I don't 16 recall them specifically being at the cabin. 17 But, I know that throughout the course of all 18 these years Eckroth was allowed to bring all 19 sorts of different kids up to that cabin. I 20 guess I am the fact witness as to what I 21 remember in that sauna and the actions within 22 that cabin to help establish that these boys 23 are telling the truth and that they are 24 believed because, believe it or not, victims of 25 sexual abuse often are not believed. And</p>

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1 that's very common. Sir, I don't know if
 2 you've done any reading on the subject, but
 3 it's very common.
 4 Q. But, you have no personal knowledge that
 5 relates to their -- to the boys' claims?
 6 A. I do not. I have not spoken to them in all
 7 these years.
 8 Q. There is also a claim by a boy named -- by the
 9 name of that he had been abused by
 10 Father Richard Eckroth. Do you have any
 11 knowledge or information --
 12 A. I have no idea who is. I've never
 13 met the man. I do not know who he is.
 14 MR. KLUKAS: That's all I have then.
 15 CROSS-EXAMINATION
 16 BY MR. STICH:
 17 Q. Your brother has denied being abused by Father
 18 Eckroth, isn't that right?
 19 A. That's correct. I talked to him the other day.
 20 Q. You want to believe that he was in fact abused
 21 by Father Eckroth, don't you?
 22 A. I believe that. I believe it to be true. I do
 23 not believe he could be capable of the threat
 24 and what he did to me had it not been
 25 perpetrated on him.

Page 38

1 Q. And you've been told this and wanted to believe
 2 this for the last 16 years, right?
 3 A. Not for the last 16 years because I have not
 4 been actually trying to deal with this issue
 5 for the last 16 years. I kept this a secret
 6 because of that threat. Now in my healing of
 7 trying to understand the victimization I had I
 8 don't believe that my brother could be capable
 9 of those actions had it not been done to him.
 10 Q. As you grew up that was the nature of the
 11 family discussion, wasn't it, that your brother
 12 had been abused by Eckroth?
 13 A. I believe so. And I believe in my family.
 14 Q. Are you a psychologist?
 15 A. No, I'm not.
 16 MR. STICH: I have no further
 17 questions.
 18 MR. QUINLIVAN: I have no questions.
 19 CROSS-EXAMINATION
 20 BY MS. KUGLER:
 21 Q. I have a simple one for you. What's your date
 22 of birth?
 23 A. MR. Ms. Kugler, could I
 24 mention that if it was between then '71 and '74

Page 39

1 when this is alleged to have occurred,
 2 would then be six to nine, not later.
 3 MR. KLUKAS: Thank you,
 4 MS. KUGLER:
 5 Q. Do you recall when Father Eckroth would put the
 6 tights on others or put the tights on himself
 7 if the individuals upon whom the tights were
 8 being put on had their underwear on or off?
 9 MR. STICH: I'm going to object as a
 10 misstatement of the testimony of this witness
 11 and mischaracterization of the testimony of
 12 this witness. She said she doesn't even
 13 remember if Father Eckroth was involved with
 14 anybody putting these tights on or off or if
 15 they did it themselves. And she didn't
 16 remember if they had their clothing on or off.
 17 And therefore she's disqualified herself from
 18 answering that question.
 19 BY MS. KUGLER:
 20 Q. You can answer the question.
 21 A. One more time, please.
 22 Q. Do you remember if the kids who pulled the
 23 tights on, whether it was Eckroth putting it on
 24 them or they put it on themselves, had their
 25 underwear on or off?

Page 40

1 A. I do not recall whether we had our underwear on
 2 or off. I remember the tights on my body. I
 3 don't know if he placed them on me. I recall
 4 Eckroth being in tights.
 5 Q. When he had the black tights on do you recall
 6 if he had his underwear on or off?
 7 A. I do not know.
 8 MS. KUGLER: No further questions.
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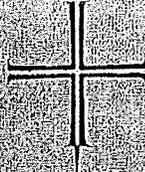
Page 41

1 I, _____, do hereby certify that I
 2 have read the foregoing transcript of my
 3 deposition the _____ day of _____
 4 1995. And I believe the same to be true and
 5 correct, (or except as follows, noting the page
 6 and line number of the correction desired,
 7 along with the correction):
 8
 9
 10
 11
 12
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 21
 22
 23
 24
 25

Notary Public
 My commission expires the _____ day of _____
 741 Midland Bank Bldg., Dept. 101 554-4348

Page 42

1 STATE OF MINNESOTA)
 2 COUNTY OF HENNEPIN)
 3
 4 Do it knowen that I took the deposition
 5 of _____ the _____ day of _____
 6 Jan, Minnesota;
 7 that I was duly and there a notary
 8 public in and for the County of Hennepin, State
 9 of Minnesota, and that by virtue thereof I was
 10 duly authorized to administer an oath.
 11 That the witness before me, testifying
 12 was by me first duly sworn to testify the whole
 13 truth and nothing but the truth relative to
 14 said cause.
 15 That the testimony of said witness
 16 was recorded in stenotype by myself and
 17 transcribed into typewriting under my
 18 direction, and that the deposition is a true
 19 record of the testimony given by the witness to
 20 the best of my ability.
 21 That I am not related to any of the
 22 parties hereto nor interested in the outcome of
 23 the action.
 24 That the reading and signing by the
 25 witness and Notice of Filing were not waived;
 WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL THIS 13th
 DAY OF FEBRUARY, 1995.
 Dennis R. Carrier



ORDER OF ST. BENEDICT, INC.

Conducting St. John's Abbey, University Preparatory School, Liturgical Press
Box 5000
COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA 56321-5000

Human Resources

(612) 363-2508
FAX (612) 363-2115

MEMORANDUM

TO: Fr. Gordon Tavis

FROM: Herbert R. Trenz 

RE: Health benefits 

DATE: February 6, 1995

The attached request for the retirement health care benefits from 


Since both  the payroll they are not eligible for benefits as employees.
Their only other option would be to COBRA pay 100% of the premium for 18 months.

Our procedure requires that you approve this request.

HR/Tals

cc: Fr. Rene McGraw

OK
Alonda Tavis, JTB
2/17/95

OSB2558

An Equal Opportunity Employer

OSB ECKROTH 00783

Web Tracy Personnel Dept S.D.

I would like to request the Health Insurance Incentive Benefits that we are eligible to receive



1/31/95

OSB2559

STATE OF MINNESOTA

DISTRICT COURT

COUNTY OF STEARNS

SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

John Doe 10A,

AFFIDAVIT OF

Plaintiff,

vs.

(4) filed

The Order of St. Benedict of the Roman
Catholic Church, a/k/a St. John's
Abbey and Father Richard Eckroth,

Defendants.

Court File No. C5-94-2194

STATE OF MINNESOTA)

) ss.

COUNTY OF RAMSEY)

first being duly sworn on oath, deposes and states as follows:

1. My name is My date of birth is I
currently reside in

2. As a child, I grew up in an area known as Flynn Town. Flynn Town is an area
of housing located on the base of the campus at St. John's University. My father was employed
by

3. On various occasions from 1972 through 1976, I went to a cabin owned by St.
John's Abbey. Father Richard Eckroth, a Benedictine Monk, was my chaperone. Though other
children went to the cabin with Father Eckroth and I, there were never any other adults present.

4. I recall Father Eckroth sexually abusing me on two specific instances while at the
cabin owned by St. John's Abbey, the first of which occurred while we were playing a game
in the kitchen area of the cabin. During the course of the game, Father Eckroth would don a

FFR 7 1005

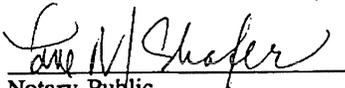
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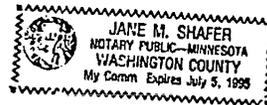
pair of tights and wear them around the other children. On one occasion, I was the "winner" of the game and was directed by Father Eckroth to pick out clothing out of a treasure chest located in the cabin. I was then directed to go upstairs to a loft area where Father Eckroth followed me. As I was standing on a mattress on the floor of the loft area, Father Eckroth knelt down on his knees and undressed me. In the course of undressing me, Father Eckroth inserted his fingers into my vagina.

5. The second incident of sexual abuse occurred when I was in a sauna located near the cabin on the same property. I was laying naked in the sauna on my stomach and Father Eckroth was caressing the backside of my body with his hands, including my buttocks.

FURTHER YOUR AFFIANT SAITH NAUGHT

Subscribed and sworn to before me this
1 day of February, 1995.


Notary Public



OSB ECKROTH_00318

ATTORNEY-CLIENT/WORK PRODUCT

OSB ECKROTH_00319

ATTORNEY-CLIENT/WORK PRODUCT

OSB ECKROTH_00320

ATTORNEY-CLIENT/WORK PRODUCT

OSB ECKROTH_00321

ATTORNEY-CLIENT/WORK PRODUCT

OSB ECKROTH_00322

ATTORNEY-CLIENT/WORK PRODUCT

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ATTORNEY-CLIENT/WORK PRODUCT

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PATIENT AUTHORIZATION
FOR RELEASE OF INFORMATION (A) filed 1)

TO: Dr. John P. Mc Namara
RE: RICHARD W. ECKROTH O.S.B.

- 2)
- 3)
- 4)
- 5)

Richard
v. Richard
v. Richard

June 21, 1926
Date of Birth and/or Soc. Sec. No.

This is your full and sufficient authorization pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 144.335, to release to STICH, ANGELL, KREIDLER & MUTH, P.A., their representatives or employees, all medical information (including but not limited to that which involves, treatment for alcohol or drug abuse, sickle cell anemia, or mental problems) maintained while I was a patient at your facility on any date, with the following exceptions:

NONE

The information is needed for the purpose of a personal injury lawsuit.

This authorization specifically includes records prepared prior to the date of this authorization and records prepared after the date of this authorization during the pendency of this proceeding (including claims and potential claims). I do not authorize re-release of this information by the third party.

I understand that I may revoke this consent in writing at any time, but that such revocation may adversely affect the course of the proceeding requiring these records. Upon the fulfillment of the above stated purpose, this consent will automatically expire without my express revocation. A photocopy of this authorization will be treated in the same manner as an original. Conversations by the bearer of this authorization with physicians, however, are/are not authorization by this release form (strike one).

Approved by
Abbott Timothy Kelly OSB:
Timothy Kelly

X Richard William Eckroth
Signature of Patient/Guardian

Relationship to Patient

Reason Patient Unable to Sign

I verify that the proceeding requiring this information is still pending and that information provided pursuant to this authorization will not be re-released for purposes not related to this proceeding.

X Robert D. Stich
Signature of Party Requesting Information

ATTENTION PUBLIC FACILITIES: Minnesota Statute § 15.163 requires automatic expiration of this authorization one year from date of authorization.

Form approved by Minnesota State Medical Association, Minnesota State Hospital Association, Minnesota State Bar Association and Minnesota Association of Hospital Attorneys.

SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY

BOX 2015

COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA 56321-2015

OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

D Filed

February 22, 1995

Richard

Rene,

I thought I should write out the text of voice-mail message which came in on my office phone late this morning. Just in case you should find it useful sometime.

As you know, Bishop Burke and Father George Wolf are here to visit Brother Barry. They apparantly dropped The Lit Press this morning.

seems to have Father George confused with Father Elias Achatz. He obviously didn't recognize Bishop Burke, whom he claimed to have spoken with about Richard Eckroth -- if my memory serves me correctly from the session I sat in on between and the Abbot some months back. Here's the message:

"Ryan, this is calling from The Liturgical Press at 2326. Two priests came in from, I believe, the Bahamas this morning. One was wearing a silver pectoral cross. I did not get their names, but I believe I remember the old gentleman as Father "Achatz," perhaps.

There question to me at the time was on the Sunday worship in the absence of a priest. And, other than short ritual books that we had on the lay ministry . . . ah I had sent them to the bookstore to see if they had a USCC publication. Now I've just run across an article of the February issue of New Theology Review.

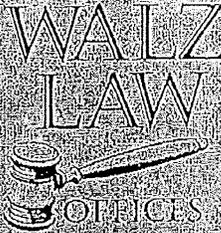
And if those guests of the abbey are still here, I would Xerox this article. And I think it's something they should read before they go further. So if you come up with their names, I wonder if you could call back to me. Thanks."

Kelly Ryan
Kelly 1053

cc: Abbot Timothy

PHONE 612 363-2544 XXXXXXXXXX FAX 612 363-3082

OSB ECKROTH_00331



Gregory S. Walz
Attorney at Law
1-800-859-1933



~~SA 5130 027 001 985~~

Mr. Herbert Trenz
Order of St. Benedict, Inc.
St. John's University
Collegeville, MN 56321

RE: [redacted] health insurance premiums

Dear Mr. Trenz:

[redacted] recently stopped by and questioned whether he should be required to pay his health insurance premiums, given that he would have worked at St. John's for 30 years had he not become disabled. He is fully disabled for various reasons, including shoulder problems, a heart condition, asbestos exposure, among others.

[redacted] indicates that a policy exists at St. John's that if an employee is employed there for 30 years, then they do not have to pay any health insurance premiums. He believes that some former employees have not had to pay these premiums when they have not even worked 30 years. He believes that he is being singled out and not being given the same benefits because of his disability or because of some other reason.

I would request that you, or some other representative of St. John's, respond to this and state the following:

1. The policy or contract under which St. John's provides health insurance premiums after retirement.
2. Whether other employees have had these health insurance premiums paid even though they have not worked for 30 years at St. John's?
3. Whether [redacted], who is disabled, should be denied benefits solely because his disabilities prevent him from working for 30 years?

Mr. Herbert Trez
April 27, 1995
Page Two

I would request that you or a representative of St. John's
respond to these questions within the next 10 days. Thank you
for your anticipated cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

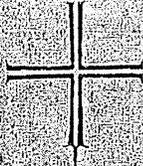
Gregory S. Walz
Gregory S. Walz
Attorney at Law

GSW:pen

cc: Mr. [REDACTED]

OSB2555

OSB ECKROTH 00786



ORDER OF ST. BENEDICT, INC.

Conducting St. John's Abbey University Preparatory School Liturgical Press
Box 5000
COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA 56321-5000

(612) 363-2508
FAX (612) 363-2115

Human Resources

Background information

~~April 23, 1995~~

Gregory S. Walz
Attorney at Law
925 South First Street
P.O. Box 638
St. Cloud, MN 56302

Re: [redacted] Health Insurance Premiums

Dear Mr. Walz:

We are in receipt of your letter of April 27, 1995.

In the event that you have not seen a copy of the Retirement Agreement which was entered into between [redacted] and the Order of St. Benedict, we are enclosing a copy for your review.

If you have any further questions, please discuss them with [redacted].

Sincerely,

Herbert R. Inenz
Director

Enclosure

cc: Ron Brandenburg

OSB2553

An Equal Opportunity Employer

Retirement Agreement: [redacted] and The Order of St. Benedict

Date of Retirement: January 1, 1995

1. **Health Insurance** - effective January 1, 1995 through December 31, 1999 the Order will contribute 75% of health insurance for you and your spouse and dependents as long as they meet the eligibility requirements of the health insurance plan. Since you will be 62 at the time of retirement you will receive the the standard group health insurance plan available to employees until age 65. At age 65 you will then receive the Medicare Supplement plan available through the Human Resource Office. Effective December 31, 1999 you will be eligible to continue the coverage at your own expense for life. Should you pass away during the 60 month period that the Order is providing 75% of your health insurance benefits, your surviving spouse will receive 75% of the health insurance payments for the remainder of the period ending December 31, 1999. After that your surviving spouse may continue to purchase coverage for life.

For the period of January 1, 1995 through March 31, 1995, seventy-five percent (75%) of the health insurance premium for family coverage (\$320.23) will be paid by Saint Johns and twenty-five percent (25%) of the health insurance premium (\$106.74) will be paid by you. Effective April 1, 1995 coverage will be changed from family coverage to employee and spouse and seventy-five percent (75%) of the health insurance premium (\$190.38) and twenty-five percent (25%) of the health insurance premium (\$63.40) will be paid by you. Effective December 31, 1999, the entire premium will be payable by you.

Any tax liability with regard to the above benefits is the responsibility of the retiree. (The current cost of this health insurance benefit to Saint Johns is \$320.23 per month). These rates are subject to change annually each July 1.

As you are aware, at the time of retirement the following benefits cease: social security contributions by the Order on your behalf, worker's compensation, sick leave, unemployment compensation, long-term disability insurance, contributions to the retirement plan.

We are pleased to be able to offer you the options listed herein in recognition of your 27 years of dedicated service.

Please confirm your intent to retire on the above stated date by signing in the designated area below.

[redacted]		
Retiring Employee	Executive in Charge	Director of Human Resources
<u>1/16/95</u>	<u>3/22/95</u>	<u>3/16/95</u>
Date	Date	Date

*Health insurance coverage will remain in the name of Arlene Vogel, spouse of retiree.

OSB2556

ORDER OF ST. BENEDICT INC.
 RETIREE HEALTH CARE PROGRAM

3/22/95

EMPL [REDACTED]
 DOB [REDACTED]
 EFFECTIVE DATE 1/1/95
 DEPARTMENT [REDACTED]

SPOUSE [REDACTED]
 DOB [REDACTED]
 ACCOUNT NUMBER [REDACTED]

	Projected Increase in Health Ins	Monthly Premium	# of Months	Yearly Premium at 75%	1/2 of Yearly Premium at 75% (memo only)	6% Interest	Avg. Balance (Fund Balance 1/2 of Premium)	Fund Balance
Beginning Balance								10,109
FY 95	0%	320.23	3	960.69	300.26	585	9,749	9,974
FY 95	0%	190.43	3	571.29	214.23	586	9,759	10,131
FY 96	15%	218.99	12	2,627.88	885.48	549	9,145	8,709
FY 97	15%	251.84	12	3,022.08	1,033.30	455	7,575	5,897
FY 98	15%	289.62	2	579.24	217.22	401	6,679	6,863
FY 98	15%	368.13	10	3,681.30	1,300.40	329	5,482	4,431
FY 99	15%	423.35	5	2,116.75	733.70	218	4,637	3,062
FY 99	15%	310.92	7	2,177.44	765.17	135	2,245	1,561
FY 00	15%	357.56	6	2,145.36	704.51	46	759	0
Total			60	15,419.24		3,302		

Cost of 5 years of health insurance to OSB

OSB2557

Letters to the Editor

Court Dismisses Sex Abuse Charges Against Priest at St. John's Abbey

To the Editor,

Last July the *St. Cloud Unabridged* published a lengthy article on sex abuse allegations leveled against Rev. Richard Eckroth, OSB. The report contained extensive quotations from Jeff Anderson, a Twin Cities attorney famous for cases of this sort. The article contained not a word from the other side.

In August 1994 you published a letter in which I chided you for this one-sided presentation. It may interest you and readers of the *St. Cloud Unabridged* to learn that the case has been settled. On Monday, June 6 of this year the judge signed an order "dismissing" the case "on the merits" and

"with prejudice."

The phrase "on the merits" indicates that the dismissal was based upon the evidence presented (or lack thereof) rather than on any legal technicality or procedural reason. The phrase "with prejudice" means that the same case may not be brought again.

This information may be verified by any interested individual at the Court Administration office in the Stearns County Courthouse. The names of the plaintiffs remain confidential, as the law requires.

St. Joseph

Letter to the Editor:

Sex Abuse Article 'Reveals Only One Side of the Story'

Although your monthly paper, the *St. Cloud Unabridged*, is claimed to be a newspaper of in-depth articles, the article titled "Clergy Sex Abuse..." in issue #3 (July 1994) hardly fits this description.

Out of a total of some 60 column-inches, more than half are direct quotations from a single source, attorney Jeff Anderson. The final quarter of the article is a heavy dose of Jeff Anderson praising Jeff Anderson! Is that what "in-depth" means these days?

Particularly disgusting to myself and to his many friends in the area is the discussion of the case of Rev. Richard Eckroth. You have presented in Anderson's words what is probably going to be his dramatic opening argument. Not a word from any other source, not even the official spokesperson for the abbey!

It would interest many of your readers to know that Father Richard has categorically denied the accusations made by Jeff Anderson. But readers can't learn that from your "in-depth" article.

Also missing from your article is a clear statement that Anderson's entire case rests upon the unsubstantiated memories "recalled" after more than 20 years with the assistance of a psychiatrist. The practitioners of assisted memory recall, and of course attorney Anderson, are wildly enthusiastic about this new method, but many other psychiatrists are very skeptical, to say the least, about the truthfulness and reliability of the method.

A simple and evenhanded discussion in layperson's terms of the claims and doubts that surround this technique can be found on pages 184-186 of *Science News* of September 18, 1993. The same article describes the False Memory Syndrome Foundation, founded in 1992 to provide information and support to members of more than 2,400 families who contend that they have been falsely accused of sexual abuse.

If you knew Father Richard as I, his brother, do or as many other people in the St. Cloud area have come to know him, I think that you would find it difficult or impossible to give any credence to Jeff Anderson's story. Lacking that experience, you will have to await the outcome of the trial.

I do expect that you, as editor, will be so gracious as to publish a 60 column-inch retraction when the case of Father Richard is completed.

Charles A. Eckroth
St. Joseph, MN

(Editor's note: *St. Cloud Unabridged* attempted to contact the abbey spokesperson by telephone for comment on Rev. Richard Eckroth and the suit filed against him but never received a return call. We apologize for not noting that in the article.)

Christianity. But the Judaism that I was encountering in Jewish sources—and eventually came to encounter in Jewish homes and synagogues—was very much alive and bearing the fruit of holiness. It was a noble and vital faith which had spiritually sustained countless Jews amidst untold persecutions—mainly at the hands of Christians.

Soon I came to realize that the anti-Semitism manifested throughout Christian history was rooted in the anti-Judaism of Christian theology.

Confronting Misinformation

Along with, and related to, the moral problem of anti-Semitism, there was a profound theological problem with which I knew I had to deal: since the church's identity had been built in large part upon misinformation about Judaism, I wondered if there was a way of reconstructing Christian

ment of 1975, the United States Council of Bishops emphasized the seriousness of the new Christian encounter with Jews and Judaism. The bishops claimed that "the brief suggestions on Catholic-Jewish relations of the Vatican Council have been taken up by some theologians, but their implications for theological renewal have not yet been fully explored."

To a large extent, my own theological enterprise has been and remains a response to the challenge of the American bishops to explore these implications.

New Christian View

Along with a growing number of Christian theologians, I have been working on formulating a new Christian understanding of Judaism and, consequently, a new Christian self-understanding in relation to Judaism.

God, Torah, and the covenant

the Christian community, has endured through untold persecutions precisely because of their spiritual and moral vitality.

I have therefore been forced to develop a new understanding of Judaism. And since the church's identity has been formed in relation to a caricature of Judaism, my new understanding of Judaism has inevitably led to a reformulation of my Christian self-understanding.

I have discovered a way to be Christian while at the same time acknowledging the permanent validity of Judaism. And I am pleased that the abiding validity of Judaism has been affirmed by the Catholic church and a number of other churches in the recent past.

Nevertheless, there still exists within the churches, including the Catholic church, the widespread

(See JUDAISM p.3)

OSB ECKROTH 00353



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RES: (612) 363-8726

Eulogy: [redacted] by S. Jane Weber. 9/12/95
2 Cor. 9:7-14; Mark 10:13-16, 28-30

"Now the one who provides seed for the sowing and bread for food will provide the seed for you to sow. He will multiply it and swell the harvest of your benevolence, and you will always be rich enough to be generous."

This passage from Paul speaks clearly to me of [redacted] As the third oldest in a family of fourteen children, [redacted] I learned the richness of generosity. She spoke often of the love and acceptance she always received from her parents and siblings, the harvest of benevolence that Paul speaks of. In speaking of her family, [redacted] I fondly remembered that family celebrations were a big part of their life. Special times like birthdays, were celebrated with her father bringing home a special treat, and her mother baking a cake. She remembers her parents as hard-working. Her mother was specially trained in tailoring, an art which she passed on to [redacted]

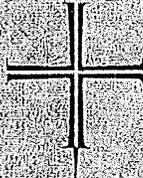
The faith-life in her early North Dakota days was enriched by daily Mass and the rosary prayed in common in her home. [redacted] I so gratefully remembered other North Dakota neighbors and friends: Father Hildebrand Eickhoff, who was instrumental in getting Catholic teachers into public schools. The [redacted], Father Luke and Father Urban, and her next door neighbor, [redacted]. When she left home to seek God in this monastic community, she recalled asking her father for a blessing, perhaps another influence of the Benedictines who taught her in grade school. She laughingly remembered running errands as a child for the reward of a cookie.

In her declining years at St. Scholastica, those of her close knit family who lived nearby, [redacted] and Father Richard, spent many hours with her. The Sisters and staff at St. Scholastica know this was a great comfort to her, as was the loving service of everyone there.

[redacted] a kind and gentle person. Hospitality was second nature to her. She also had a special love for teaching children. In this she certainly resonated with the Gospel story: "Let the children come to me for the kingdom belongs to such as these." What was also important to [redacted] is that her teaching career was carefully interwoven in Community

OSB ECKROTH_00355

OSB ECKROTH_00354



ORDER OF ST. BENEDICT, INC

Conducting St. John's Abbey, University, Preparatory School, Liturgical Press
Box 5000
COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA 56321-5000

Human Resources

(612) 363-2508
FAX (612) 363-2115

MEMORANDUM

TO: Renee McGraw, O.S.B.
FROM: Herbert Trez, Director of Human Resources 
SUBJECT: [REDACTED] -date
DATE: September 14, 1995

The last contact our office has had with the [REDACTED]orney was by way of his letter of April 27, 1995 regarding the [REDACTED]alth insurance premiums. We responded on April 28 by sending him a copy of the Retirement Agreement which has been entered into with [REDACTED] dated January 1, 1995.

They are continuing to pay their share of the health insurance premium which is presently \$87.50 plus the basic and dependent life insurance premiums for the coverage they are continuing. This amounts to a total of \$98.35 per month.

If you need further information, please advise.

OSB2551

PAY PERIOD	REG HRS	HOLIDAYS	TOTAL HOURS	PAY RATE	TOTALS	C. MONK/PAY
				15.25	ROUNDED	
Sept 93	160 Hrs	8 Holiday	168		2,562	
Oct 93	176 Hrs		176		2,684	
Nov 93	176 Hrs		176		2,684	
Dec 93	152 Hrs	16 Holiday	168		2,562	
Jan 94	160 Hrs	24 Holiday	164		2,500	
Feb 94	168 Hrs		168		2,562	
Mar 94	160 Hrs		160		2,440	
Apr 94	176 Hrs	8 Holiday	184		2,806	
May 94	176 Hrs		176		2,684	
June 94	160 Hrs	8 Holiday	168		2,562	
July 94	168 Hrs	8 Holiday	176		2,684	
Aug 94	184 Hrs		184		2,806	10,842
Sept 94	160 Hrs	8 Holiday	168		2,562	
Oct 94	176 Hrs		176		2,684	
Nov 94	176 Hrs		176		2,684	
Dec 94	152 Hrs	16 Holiday	168		2,562	10,492
						42,334
Pension		0.09				1,610
Health		220.42 / month		16 Mo		3,527
Dental		19.76 / month		16 Mo		318
Other		12.00 / month		16 Mo		192
Vacation Accumulated Sept 93						15
1050/15/25						2,723
Vacation Earned After 9/93						2,440
1000/15/25						
Sick Leave Accum 9/93						
1015/15/25 X 66						1,017
Sick Leave Earned After 9/93						242
1015/15/25 X 66						
Affordable Cost 5 Yrs Health Insurance						
Vol 10/1/93 - 1/1/95						11,148
TOTAL COMPENSATION THRU 1/1/95						67,661

OSB2552

STIPULATION AND RELEASE

[redacted] and the Order of Saint Benedict (hereinafter "the parties") stipulate and agree as follows:

WHEREAS

- 1. [redacted] and [redacted] are [redacted] of the Order of Saint Benedict and alleged ~~to have~~ sustained psychological, emotional and other injuries as a result of certain events ~~occurring~~ ^{that they have} to his children, and
- 2. The Order of Saint Benedict has denied legal liability for any damages to [redacted] or other members of their family; and
- 3. [redacted] requested that the Order of Saint Benedict pay for on-going counseling and therapy plus support until his proposed retirement date of January 1, 1995) and
- 4. The Order of Saint Benedict wishes to pay for reasonable therapy and counseling expenses incurred by [redacted] and other members of his family and to provide support until his proposed retirement date of January 1, 1995.

THEREFORE, the parties agree and stipulate as follows:

- 1. [redacted] shall continue as [redacted] on leave with full pay until January 1, 1995. As an employee on leave with full pay, he shall be eligible for all employee benefits except as noted below.
- 2. [redacted] agrees that he shall retire on January 1, 1995, from [redacted] with the Order of Saint Benedict. Upon retirement, [redacted] shall be eligible for all health benefits and accumulated sick leave given to an employee retiring at the same participation level as other employees with [redacted] accumulated seniority.
- 3. [redacted] agrees not to make any claims against the Order of Saint Benedict for [redacted]. He shall be eligible to apply for medical disability. If [redacted] receives medical disability, the financial terms of this Agreement shall terminate and new terms shall be negotiated in accord with the provisions of the medical disability.

4. Neither this Agreement or the fact of payment shall be admissible at trial for any purposes

5. [redacted] expressly intend and agree that this Agreement includes a Release of all their claims arising from incidents involving their children and monks of the Order of Saint Benedict, including but not limited to, claims for known, unknown, latent, developed and undeveloped injuries, anticipated and unanticipated consequences, and known and unknown developments of such injuries, and claims as respect the nature, extent and permanency of any of such injuries.

5. The Parties agree that the existence of this Agreement and its terms and conditions are to be held in strict confidence.

[redacted] agree not to disclose the existence of this Agreement, its terms and conditions to any individual, except to their attorneys, accountants, tax consultants, state and federal tax authorities or as may be required by law, and the Order of Saint Benedict also agrees not to disclose the existence of this agreement except as is necessary to their accountants, auditors, state and federal tax authorities, their managers, officers and board of directors, or board of trustees, insurers, attorneys, or as may be required by law or in defense of the order or its members from any claim, suit or other legal action initiated by the children or their spouses of [redacted]

Dated:

Subscribed and sworn to before me this ____ day of _____ 19____

Dated

THE ORDER OF SAINT BENEDICT
by _____
Timothy Kelly
President

Father Richard Eckroth was born in Mandan, N. D., made his first profession of vows in 1946, studied philosophy at the International Benedictine College of St. Anselm in Rome for three years and was ordained to the priesthood in 1952.



He taught philosophy at St. John's University (1952-76), was the assistant to the novice master (1951-53) and to the master of brothers (1953-56), served as the master of brothers (1956-64) and as a faculty resident in student housing at St. John's (1964-67).

He was also in charge of the abbey's stamp and coin collections and was the community's wine maker and keeper of the wine cellar (1963-76). He also served as chaplain at the monastery, college and high school of St. Benedict, St. Joseph (1967-73).

Father Eckroth began his pastoral ministry as assistant at St. Augustine Church, St. Cloud (1973-74) and Seven Dolers Church, Albany (1974-76).

From 1977 to 1993 he served at the abbey's foundation in the Bahamas. He was the associate pastor of a church in Nassau, then took charge of six churches on the Family Island of Andros, and later oversaw the construction of a new church on the Family Island of Bimini.

He is currently in charge of the abbey-parish cemetery and monastic burials at St. John's and is a substitute chaplain.

July 3, 1996

Office of the Abbot
St. John's Abbey
Collegeville, Minn.

Dear Sir:

Please place the enclosed
check in the proper account.

We wish to honor Father
Richard Eckroth on his fiftieth
year of the priest hood.

Thank you for your help
Sincerely,

SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY

BOX 2015

COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA 56321-2015

OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

July 16, 1996

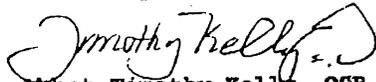
Dear Mr. and Mrs.

Thank you for your kind letter and generous gift to Saint John's Abbey on the occasion of Fr. Richard Eckroth's fiftieth anniversary as a priest.

Your gift is a fitting tribute to a monk who has used his talents selflessly in the service of his monastic community and the Church.

May inner peace abound in you and may God continue to bless you all.

Sincerely in Christ,


Abbot Timothy Kelly, OSB

TK/kr

PHONE 612 363-2544 FAX 612 363-3082

OSB ECKROTH_00358

RELIGION NEWS

Rev. Richard Eckroth celebrates Golden Jubilee



REV. RICHARD ECKROTH

REV RICHARD Eckroth, OSB, a member of St John's Abbey, Collegeville, Minnesota, is celebrating 50 years of commitment to the Benedictine monastic way of life.

Rev Eckroth did pastoral work in the Bahamas from 1977-1993.

A native of Mandan, North Dakota, Fr Richard made his first profession of vows on July 11, 1946. He was ordained to the priesthood in 1952.

After teaching philosophy at St John's University and serving in various administrative and pastoral positions, Fr Richard was assigned to the Bahamas where he first served as the assistant pastor of Holy Family Church, Robinson

Road.

He also lived and worked at St Augustine's Monastery, Fox Hill. He then was named pastor of Holy Family Church before being assigned to take care of the three Catholic churches on South Andros and the three churches at Mangrove Cay.

During the next eight years he did extensive repair and maintenance work, pulling new roofs on the churches at Little Creek, Kemp's Bay, and High Rock as well as at Behring Point, North Andros.

He also painted all the churches on South Andros as well as Holy Angels Church and St Benedict's Church at Mangrove Cay.

In 1987 Fr Richard was assigned to Bimini where he supervised the construction of the new Holy Name Church on that island. When that project was completed he returned to St Augustine's Monastery in Nassau and continued his pastoral ministry to various New Providence parishes.

In 1993 Father Richard returned to St John's Abbey where he is in charge of the abbey-parish cemetery and does substitute chaplaincy work at convents and retirement centres in the Collegeville area.

During Lent this year he returned to the Bahamas for a six weeks' visit.

Abbot Baldwin Dworschak of St. John's Abbey dies at 90

ABBOT Baldwin Dworschak, OSB, sixth abbot of St John's Abbey Collegeville, Minnesota, died on June 16 from a heart attack while recuperating from colon cancer. His funeral and burial were at St John's Abbey on June 19.

Abbot Baldwin, who was the religious superior of the Benedictine monks serving in the Bahamas, was Abbot of St John's from 1950-71.

Abbot Baldwin was born 90 years ago on March 1, 1906, in Arcadia, Wisconsin. He attended St John's Preparatory School, University and Seminary, made his first profession of vows as a Benedictine monk in 1927 and was ordained to the priesthood in 1933.

He taught English, religion and metal craft classes at St John's, served as the proctor in a student dormitory as well as Dean of Men, superior of monastic priesthood students, and Prior or second-in-command of the monastic community. He was elected abbot in 1950 to succeed Abbot Alcuin Deutsch. He chose as his guiding motto a phrase from the Rule of St Benedict whereby the abbot is counselled "to serve rather than to preside" over the community.

Three of the major events of Abbot Baldwin's two-decade term of office were: the preparation of a 100-year building plan for the Collegeville campus that included a



ABBOT DWORSCHAK

new abbey and university church designed by the world-renowned architect, Marcel Breuer; the implementation of the decrees of the Second Vatican Council of the Catholic Church (1963-

65) concerning the renewal and adaptation of religious life; and the leadership that resulted in the establishment of St Augustine's Monastery, Nassau, as an independent, self-ruling community in 1967.

Abbot Baldwin resigned from his responsibilities as abbot when he reached the age of 65 in 1971. He continued to serve the monastic community as director of vocations and later as the custodian of the abbey-parish cemetery at Collegeville. One of the valued services to the students of St John's was his daily recording of textbook assignments for those who have the learning disability of dyslexia that makes it difficult for them to read the printed page.

In 1993 on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood, Abbot Baldwin received the Pax Christi Award, the highest honour bestowed by his alma mater.

Religion Calendar

FINANCIAL DOMINIONS

On July 28-August 2, Kingdom Life World Outreach Ministries will host their 2nd Annual Financial Dominion Conference at the church's workshop centre, 25 Chesapeake Road.

On July 28 at 10:30am, Fitzroy Wilson, senior pastor of Kingdom First International Church in Barbados, will speak on "Corporate Aspects of Financial Dominion." At 7pm that night, Pastor Claude Brooks will speak on "Financial Dominion through Service." Pastor Brooks has founded many successful businesses, including the first computer school of Guyana.

Other speakers include Marlon Smith, director of development at Kingsway Academy and director of education at Christian Life Church; Rich Worsham, president of a Christian business organisation, the Joseph and Daniel Company, in Florida, and Rev Dr N Cindy Trimm, president and director of Dominion Ambassadors Inc in Florida.

Henry Francis, associate pastor and chief financial officer at Bahamas Faith Ministries International, Alfred Stewart, president of British American Bank, and vice chancellor of the Anglican diocese, lawyer Rubie Nottage will also speak.

Monday-Thursday sessions will be held at 10am, 11:15am, 12:30pm and 7:30pm and Friday sessions at 7:30pm.

CALVARY DELIVERANCE

THE 14th Annual Convention of Calvary Deliverance Church will be held July 21-28 under the theme "Waiting with the Right Expectation."

CHRIST THE KING

THE FOLLOWING services will be held at Christ the King Anglican Church, Ridge-land Park West:

Sunday: 7am and 10am - Said Mass and sermon with Father Ranfurly Brown; 7:30pm - Solemn Evensong, sermon and benediction with Fr Brown. Monday: 7am - Mass; 6pm - Confirmation class.

ALL SAINTS PARISH

THE FOLLOWING services will be held at All Saints Parish:

Sunday: 7am and 10am - Family Eucharist with Father James Moultrie; 7pm - Youth service.

Tuesday: 8:30am - Mass at St. Luke's Chapel, Princess Margaret Hospital; 7:30pm - Deacon Michael Oltens will be ordained to the priesthood.

St. John's Abbey
Collegeville, Minn. 56321
May, 1997

Many nice things have happened since my last letter, but perhaps the nicest of these things was the green light that the abbot gave me on April 29th to return to the Bahamas on a permanent basis. Earlier this year the new Prior for the monastery in the Bahamas had asked me if I would be willing to return to the Bahamas with him when he takes over on July 1st. I told him I would be very willing if the abbot would give his approval. Now the abbot has done this and I will be returning to Nassau on June 30th. There are four of us priests going to Nassau at this time and also 2 junior monks to spend the summer there and help with the fixing up. I expect to be stationed in Nassau at the Priory, but there might be occasions to travel out to some of the islands from time to time. So after July 1st my address will be: St. Augustine's Monastery, Box N-394 Nassau, BAHAMAS. The telephone number has a ndw code also: 242 364 1331.

Before returning to the Bahamas I expect to visit in North Dakota. My plan is to visit there about the time of nephew wedding in Mandan on June 7th. That will be an appropriate time, for it is also the birthday of and me, a nice occasion to celebrate! I have already celebrated the good news to some extent by taking a 2-day trip up to the cabin on Swenson Lake near Bemidji. I was all alone, but had a very pleasant, peaceful time at the old cabin. The only traces of snow were a few patches in the deep woods, and the road was nice and dry so I could drive right to the door of the cabin. I did a little work by removing some old branches and rotten logs from the yard, hiked a bit through the woods over to the adjoining lake, Andrusia, where our property used to touch. I was surprised to see some ice still on Lake Andrusia, even though the Mississippi River flows through the lower end of this lake. Another surprise was to see a large beaver lodge on Swanson Lake only a short distance from our boat dock. And there was plenty of evidence that the beavers had been busy through the winter cutting down popple trees for food. I even tried the sauna one evening before going to bed, and it was very good!

These weeks have seen more and more signs of spring, even though the nights have often been freezing. One day the woods were full of frog croakings as they came out of their winter hibernation. More and more wild flowers are making their appearance, little violets and small white flowers like violets in shape. I even got stung by a mosquito before I noticed him and put him out of existence. I stopped by house one day on Kremer Lake, and we were both surprised to see a large flock of loons on his lake. I say surprised, for loons are always in pairs, only one pair of them to a lake through the summer to a lake. This must have been a flock of 50 or more of them migrating north for the summer. I had just never before seen such a flock. And another sign of spring was the wood tick I found in my hair. I have been spending a lot of time in the woods hauling out fire wood that I had split from dead oak trees I have been cutting down. I have cut down dozens of such trees, and they are not little trees either, some even 2 feet in diameter. and many other friends have been hauling home some good fuel for the winter. One day when I was hauling such a load on the little narrow gage truck that I use, the truck broke down with the front wheels collapsed. It sure looked like the end of the road for this truck. But the mechanic at the garage looked it over and discovered that it was only the shock absorbers that had come loose, and he was able to fix them in short order. For this I was very grateful, for I have found it to be a most handy vehicle for working in the woods.

ON April 17th word came from Nassau that Bro. Henry had died. It was for his expected death that I had built the coffin when I was there in February and March. But I did not expect them to use it so soon. His cancer progressed very rapidly at the end. Fr. Abbot went to Nassau for the funeral which was a very big one, with the 900+ students and hundreds of other friends attending. He had been the baker for years and had won a way into the hearts of the students with his pastries. They are going to miss him. At St. John's we had a memorial mass at the same time as he was being buried in Nassau.

At St. John's construction has begun on an addition to the sports facility and field. This necessitated the removal of 2 stone ticket booths I had built of stone and cement in the early 60's. I'm sure these will be replaced along with a new press box in a new facility. I had also helped to build the old press box even earlier than the ticket booths. I guess eventually all the old will pass away just as we do.

Richard

OSB ECKROTH_00360

MEET THE NEW CREW

Saint Augustine's Monastery (SAM) is pleased to welcome three Benedictine monks of Saint John's Abbey, Collegeville, Minnesota, to assist in the daily worship and work of this Bahamian community.



Father Richard Eckroth, OSB, is no stranger to the Bahamas, having done previous pastoral work here for 16 years (1977-93). Born in Mandan, North Dakota,

71 years ago, Fr. Richard made his first profession of monastic vows at Saint John's in 1946 and was ordained to the priesthood in 1952. He taught philosophy at Saint John's University and served in various administrative and pastoral positions in Minnesota.

Assigned to the Bahamas in 1977, he first served as the associate pastor and pastor of Holy Family Church in Nassau. He then was named pastor of six mission churches on Andros Island. During his eight-year term there, Fr. Richard did extensive repair and maintenance work, putting new roofs on the churches at Little Creek, Kemp's Bay, High Rock, and Behring Point and painting a number of the churches on this Family Island of the Bahamas.

In 1987 Fr. Richard became pastor of Holy Name Church on the Island of Bimini where he supervised the construction of the new church. He returned to Saint John's in 1993 where he was in charge of the abbey-parish cemetery and did chaplaincy work at convents and retirement centers.

Delighted to be back in the Bahamas, Fr. Richard has been appointed the plant manager of the monastery and chaplain of Saint Martin's Monastery. He is putting his practical experience and expertise as a carpenter, electrician, and general handyman to good use, and the community here is grateful for his contributions.



Father Antony Hellenberg, OSB, was born in Chicago 58 years ago. He entered Saint John's Abbey in 1960 and was ordained to the priesthood in 1966. He has the

Master's degree both in German language and literature and in folklore.

For the past ten years Fr. Antony served as the Director of Academic Advising at Saint John's and was responsible for assisting students in the fulfillment of their graduation requirements. Prior to this work he had served as the coordinator of special events, as a faculty resident in college housing, and as a teacher of German.

Fr. Antony worked seven years as an instructor in mathematics and science at the Howard School for Learning Disabled Students in Atlanta, Georgia. He also did contract work for the Smithsonian Institution and the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., in the area of German folklore.

This past year Fr. Antony was on a sabbatical leave during which he first studied educational computing services and then pursued courses in

THAT DATE- APPROXIMATELY 15 DECEMBER 1994. EACH OF THE FIVE ATTORNEYS AND THE CURRENT ABBOT AT ST. JOHN'S RECEIVED A SET OF TAPES, ALONG WITH A COLOR-CODED SET CHARTING FAMILY NAMES AND THE RESPECTIVE CHILDREN WHOSE LIVES HAD EITHER ENDED OR CONTINUED WITH TROUBLING LIFE OUTCOMES. I WILL MAKE THESE TAPES AND THE CHART AVAILABLE TO ANY INVESTIGATIVE AGENCY THAT WILL TAKE THE TIME FOR DISCOVERY. WHAT PROMPTS THIS IS THAT WHEN I HAD GONE TO RESPONSIBLE LEGAL, MEDICAL, PSYCHOLOGICAL, SOCIAL SERVICE, OR HOSPITAL CAREGIVERS, I WAS TOLD... "WRITE A BOOK..THE STORY IS TOO BIG... I HAVE ANOTHER PATIENT/APPOINTMENT WAITING...GET A LAWYER...WE DONT HAVE THE RESOURCES OR STAFF TO INVESTIGATE YOUR CLAIMS."

IT TURNED OUT TO BE GALLING ENOUGH TO LEARN THAT ECKROTH HAD APPARENTLY GONE ABOUT THE CAMPUS SHOPS SAYING THAT HE HAD "WON" OR "HAD BEEN ENONERATED BUT MORE SO ON SEEING THE ANNOUNCEMENT THAT POST-PUBESCENT PRIESTS WERE BEING COUNSELLED AND THEN PLACED BACK INTO MY CHURCH (SEE ATTACHED ARTICLE FROM ST.CLOUD DAILY TIMES, NOVEMBER 1995). WHILE NOTHING WAS SAID IN THE ARTICLE ABOUT PREPUBESCENT PRIESTS, I READ THIS ARTICLE KNOWING THE DAMAGE AND CORROSION THAT HAD HIT OUR COMMUNITY. I BELIEVE THAT THE SUPERIORS OF GO TO ANY LENGTH TO KEEP A PRIEST IN SERVICE. "GOOD" MEN DOING NOTHING IN THE FACE OF EVIL.

ADDENDUM III

IN ADDITION TO ECKROTH-DAHLHEIMER, I CONNECT THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF THE ST. JOHN'S COMMUNITY TO OTHER YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN WHO I FEEL HAD HAD THEIR LIVES DISRUPTED AND WHO I HAD REPORTED EITHER TO ABBOT THEISEN OR IN THE DEPOSITIONS. EACH NAME BELOW IS GIVEN AN ALPHA BETIC CODE LETTER (A TO F) AND THAT CODE WILL BE ENTERED INTO A SEALED ADDENDUM (IV) THAT I EXPECT TO GIVE TO BCA RESEARCH TEAM AND OTHERS:

PRIEST A: "CASE SETTLED OUT OF COURT. VICTIM - IF
ST JOSEPH, MN
*THIS PRIEST IS FEATURED AS THE THIRD STUDY IN A FRONTLINE
(PBS) PROGRAM OF THREE SUMMERS AGO- CLERGY ABUSE: SINS OF
THE FATHERS.
*THE BACKGROUND OF THIS STUDY IS THE STREET WHERE MY WIFE
AND I BUY GROCERIES, GAS/REPAIR OUR CAR, DRY CLEAN CLOTHES,
AND THE SCHOOL AND CHURCH WHERE WE HAD PLACED ALL FOUR
OF OUR CHILDREN
*I CANNOT BELIEVE THAT PRIEST A COULD ONLY HAVE ABUSED
ONE YOUNG MAN. IT IS MY PERCEPTION THAT PEOPLE LIKE A
DON'T QUIT WITH ONE AND MAY HAVE HAD MANY SUCH CONTACTS
*WINESS/INFORMANT-YES
PRIEST B: "FORMER COLD SPRING, ST BONIFACE CHURCH PASTOR
*GUESTS OF B INCLUDE

AND
...LIEVE TO BE SUICIDE)

*WITNESS/INFORMANT YES
PRIEST C: "FORMER FACULTY MEMBER CSB (COLLEGE OF ST. BENEDICT)
ADMINISTRATION ASKED THAT HE BE RETURNED TO ABBEY AS
HE CAN'T KEEP HIS HANDS OFF OUR STUDENTS"
*PLACED AS DEPARTMENT HEAD IN THIS PLANT
*GUESTS A FORMER SAUNA CHILD OF ECKROTH IN THE WORKPLACE
UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THE YOUNG WOMAN LEAVES OUR EMPLOYMENT
TO BECOME A NANY IN NEW YORK STATE
*WITNESS, YES

JARVIS HEARING 22 DECEMBER 1997
ADDENDUM III-CONTINUED

PRIEST D: "GUESTS AND ACTIVELY PURSUES ONE OF OUR STUDENT EMPLOYEES WHO WORKED IN THIS PLANT UNTIL WEEKS AFTER THE YOUNG MAN'S SOBBING, WIDOWED MOTHER HAD CALLED THE LOCAL CRIMESTOPPERS REPRESENTATIVE. THE WOMAN WAS ASKING "IF THERE WAS A COURSE OF ACTION SHE MIGHT TAKE TO STOP THE SOLICITATION OF PRIEST D ON HER SON."

"I REPORTED THIS INCIDENT TO FORMER ABBOT THEISEN ON 12 JULY 1982 ALONG WITH MY FIRST FORMAL ACCUSATION OF ECKROTH. END RESULT OF THE CONFERENCE WITH ABBOT THEISEN: ECKROTH WENT BACK TO THE MISSION IN THE BAHAMAS. PRIEST D BECAME THE CO-COORDINATOR OF THE FRESHMAN COLLOQUIUM WHICH MEANT THAT 200+ MATRICULATING YOUNG MEN OF THAT FALL '82 HAD TO ENTER THEIR COLLEGE YEARS THROUGH THIS MAN'S OFFICE...SORT OF LIKE TROLLING RED MEAT BEFORE A SHARK!

"WITNESS, YES.

PRIEST E: "ASSIGNED AS PASTOR TO SAME PARISH AS PRIEST A (WHO BY NOW WAS HOUSED AT ST SCHOLASTICA' COLLEGE IN DULUTH AND ASSIGNED AS CHAPLAIN AT THE DULUTH FEDERAL PRISON)

"E OFFICIATES AT FUNERAL OF POLICE OFFICER AND THEN A 15-YEAR OLD BOY FROM AVON, MN, WHO HAD DIED OF SELF-INFLICTED GUNSHOT BETWEEN XMAS 95 AND EARLY JANUARY 1996.

"I WAS TOLD THE BOY'S PARENTS HAD BOTH ASKED E TO STOP SEEING THEIR SON

"PRIEST E RETURNS TO ABBEY WITH SECOND "NERVOUS CONDITION" IN HIS CAREER

"WITNESS/INFORMANT, YES

PRIEST F: "PLACED IN MY WORKPLACE AS EDITOR ON 2 SEPTEMBER 1994 ON THE VERY SAME DAY I HAD REFUSED TO ALLOW THE ST.CLOUD HOSPITAL 2 WEST DOCTORS CABUGAO/KOOIKER TO BEGIN THEIR RE-TREATMENT OF MY WIFE IN THE FACE OF \$75,000 WORTH OF HOSPITAL BILLING FROM THE PREVIOUS JUNE-AUGUST TREATMENT REGIMEN.

"PRIEST F GUESTS ST.JOHN'S PREPARATORY STUDENTS (ST CLOUD DAILY TIMES, CIRCA EARLY AUGUST 1991)

"TO HIS CREDIT PRIEST F REPORTS TO MY CO-WORKERS WHEN THEY QUESTION HIM ON THEIR OWN PERSONAL SAFETY OR OF THE SAFETY OF THEIR CHILDREN SHOULD THEIR CHILDREN EVER BE IN THE WORKPLACE, THAT "YOU NEED NOT WORRY AS ALL OF MY VICTIMS WERE 17, 18, OR 19 YEARS OLD"

"I DO NOT SEE THIS INDIVIDUAL (F) DAILY BUT WILL GREET HIM A GOOD DAY/EVENING WITHOUT REFERRING TO HIM BY NAME AND CERTAINLY NOT BY THE TITLE, FATHER. I AM ASHAMED TO HAVE HIS NAME ON TWO OF OUR PUBLICATIONS THAT I HAVE SOLD AND RECOMMENDED TO PASTORS/PARISHES SINCE THE EARLY 60'S

"WHEN GREETING OR MEETING THE MAN, I LOOK AT HIS HANDS WHICH, I BELIEVE, WERE ONCE CONSECRATED TO THE SERVICE OF MY CHURCH. I BELIEVE IF I WERE TO LOOK IN HIS FACE AND SEE A HINT OF EXONERATED SMIRK, I BELIEVE I WOULD LOSE MY COMPOSURE.

ONE IMPORTANT NOTE: PRIESTS A, D, AND E HAD TO HAVE BEEN PART OF A BATTERY OF PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTS GIVEN IN 1954 BY MY FORMER THERAPIST, JOHN MCNAMARA (SEE DEPOSITION PAGES _____ OF THE 30 JAN 1995 TESTIMONY). MCNAMARA HAD TOLD ME DURING OUR MAY-JUNE 1978 CONFERENCES THAT HE, WHILE UNDER CONTRACT TO THE ST. JOHN'S COMMUNITY, HAD WARNED THAT SAME COMMUNITY OF THE PROBLEMATIC NATURE OF ECKROTH AND "THOSE PEOPLE." IT IS NOW OBVIOUS THAT MCNAMARA'S WARNINGS HAD HAD SOME SUBSTANCE.

ODDLY ENOUGH, THE PEDOPHILE PRIEST ECKROTH AND DAHLHEIMER AND PRIESTS A TO F ARE NOT MY PERSONAL TARGETS. I HAVE HAD THE TIME TO WONDER, PARTICULARLY WHEN THE WORD "DYSFUNCTIONAL" IS CASUALLY APPLIED TO MYSELF OR MY FAMILY, WHAT WOULD BE THE DEGREE OF "HYPER-DYSFUNCTIONALITY" IF APPLIED TO THE SUPERIORS AND CAREGIVERS TO THE MEN LISTED ABOVE? THE DAMAGE THEY HAVE DONE WITH APPARENT IMPUNITY AND IMPENETRABLE DENIAL MUST RANK LARGE WITH AMONG THEIR FELLOW PRIESTS WHO STRUGGLE TO CONDUCT THEIR OWN LIVES UPRIGHTLY AND WHO GO ABOUT THEIR OWN MINISTRIES. SOME OF THE UPRIGHT ARE CONFRONTED BY THESE SATYRS EVEN BEFORE ORDINATION.

MY TARGET WOULD BE THOSE SUPERIORS WHO COVER FOR THESE GUYS AND PLACE THEM IN NEW ASSIGNMENTS KNOWING FULL WELL THEIR PROCLIVITIES FOR PRE/POSTPUBESCENT ACTIVITY. I CAN'T BELIEVE THESE MEN ARE ALLOWED TO PREACH, TO BAPTISE, MARRY, BURY, OR ADMINISTER OTHER SACRAMENTS, OR, WITH THE HANDS OF A PEDOFILER/EPHEBOPHILE, WOULD BE ALLOWED TO PICK UP A HOST OR CHALICE TO CELEBRATE THE EUCHARIST. MCNAMARA HAD SAID TO ME IN MAY-JUNE 1978 WHEN I POSED THE QUESTION "HOW COULD A PRIEST WITH THE MASS WINE STILL ON HIS BREATH, BE MASSAGING KIDS IN A SAUNA?"

I SWEAR HIS REPLY, WITH TEARS RUNNING DOWN HIS OWN FACE, WAS

"MY WIFE AND I NO LONGER GO TO FUNCTIONS AT THE COUNTRY CLUB...
"WHEN I ENTER THE ROOM, THE LOCAL PRIESTS AND MINISTERS EXIT...
"THEY KNOW I KNOW WHAT THEY ARE DOING TO MY PATIENTS...."

IT WOULD APPEAR THAT THIS MAY HAVE BEEN THE POLICY OF ST. CLOUD HOSPITAL (2 WEST) STAFFERS AND/OR THOSE PERSONS RUNNING CENTRAL MINNESOTA MENTAL HEALTH CENTER (CMMHC), AND/OR THOSE YOUNG PEOPLE GOING BEFORE AN EXAMINING TEAM SUCH AS JENSEN -CUMMING: IF THE CHILD TELLS OF AN ABUSIVE EVENT, THEN

- I. SEPARATE HIM/HER FROM FAMILY AND, WITHOUT SUPPORT OF MOTHER, FATHER, OR SIBLINGS, PRESENT HIM TO PERPETRATOR
- II. INTERDICT TIME-"DON'T TELL OR THESE FINE THINGS WILL HAPPEN TO YOUR FAMILY" (SEE NOTES WRITTEN PAGES GIVEN TO ROGER SCHWAB THE PATIENT ADVOCATE ON MARCH 1996
- III. APPLY LABEL- THE MOST ACUTE EVER SEEN -EVEN IF IT TURNS OUT TO BE A MIS-DIAGNOSIS AND LEAD TO LONG-TERM MIS MEDICATION
- IV. EFFECTIVE IN KEEPING THE PATIENT SILENT, IN A STATE OF BEING UNABLE TO EXPRESS THEIR PAIN WHILE THE STATUE OF LIMITATIONS RUNS ITS INITIAL COURSE???
- V. IF THE YOUNG PERSON FINALLY SEES A LEGAL RECOURSE, THEN SETTLE AND SEAL IT UP LIKE A BAD DREAM

AN OUTRAGEOUS ACCUSATION, A WILD STRETCH OF FANTASY? NOT IN THE FACE OF THE DENIALS WE HAVE MET, NOTE IN THE FACE OF THE ACCUSATIONS THIS FAMILY HAS MET, AND, BY GOD, NOT IN THE FACE OF THE INACTION OF CAREGIVERS WHO WOULD NOT MAKE A SINGLE, SIGNIFICANT MOVE ON THE BEHALF OF MY WIFE, SON, OR THE BLUE-CODED YOUNG PEOPLE LISTED ABOVE. I BELIEVE THAT, IF DR. NILES,

JARVIS HEARING 22 DECEMBER 1997
ADDENDUM III-CONTINUED

31 DECEMBER 1997

DR MCNAMARA, DR WILLIE OR BRATTENSBURG, IF (OF WRTC) AND OTHERS WHO DEEMED IT IN THEIR OWN BEST INTERESTS NOT TO MOVE ON THIS FAMILY'S BEHALF, HAD REPORTED THIS ALLEGATION AT ONSET, MY LIST OF SUICIDES AND THE HOSPITAL STAYS OF THESE YOUNG PEOPLE WOULD HAVE BEEN SHORTENED- NOT LENGTHENED - TO THAT POINT THAT ON 10 NOVEMBER 1997 ONE MORE YOUNG MAN WOULD NOT HAVE DONE A DESPERATE ACT AGAINST HIMSELF IN THE SNOW OUTSIDE THE NEWMAN CENTER.

IF YOU DO NOT BELIEVE WHAT YOU HAVE READ, HAVE AT LEAST THE DECENCY AND COURTESY OF

- I. CHECKING MY LIST AGAINST THE ECKROTH LIST OF "GUESTS" IN THE HANDS OF THE ATTORNEYS STICH, QUINLIVAN, KLUGAS, AND JEFFREY ANDERSON
- II. CHECKING MY LIST AGAINST THE OFFICE OF VITAL STATISTICS, STATE OF MINNESOTA, FOR SUICIDES IN STEARNS AND BENTON COUNTIES OF YOUNG PEOPLE WHO WERE BORN 1958-1960 AND WHO WERE DECEASED BY 1992-93 (I AM 70% SURE MY LIST IS THERE) OR
- III. CHECK MY LIST OF HOSPITALIZATIONS AND COURT COMMITMENT PROCEEDINGS RENDERED BY JENSEN-CUMMING WITH HUMAN SERVICES STATE OF MINNESOTA. PARTICULARLY DURING THE TERM OF EDWARD DIRKSWAGER

AT THIS TIME OF MY LIFE, I DO NOT WANT ANY PRIEST LIVING WITHIN THIS ST JOHN'S COMMUNITY (HIS NINETY-YEAR-OLD UNCLE INCLUDED) NOR ANY PRIEST WITHIN THE STATE OF MINNESOTA TO ATTEND MY SON OR DAUGHTER WITHOUT MY BEING PRESENT. INTERDICT TIME IS OVER.

ADDENDUM IV

(SEALED) I WILL SIMULTANEOUSLY PLACE THIS IN THE HANDS OF MY CHURCH OFFICIALS AND THAT OF DOOLITTLE OF THE SCA.

"NOTHING HAPPENED...

"THERE IS NOTHING TO TALK ABOUT....

(SO SAYS MY SON, SO SAYS THE ECKROTH ATTORNEY STICH)

OSB ECKROTH_00366

- PART I: PRIEST
- A - BRENNAN MAIERS, OSB
 - B - FRANCIS HOEFEN, OSB
 - C - PEREGRIN BERRES, OSB - *now deceased*
 - D - FINIAN MCDONALD, OSB
 - E - THOMAS GILLESPIE, OSB
 - F - DUNSTAN MOORSE, OSB

PART II:

I WAS QUESTIONED BY ROSS BAKER OF THE STEARNS COUNTY SHERIFF OFFICE IN THE FALL OR SPRING OF 1975 IN THE PRESENCE OF JOHN DWYER. GAVE ROSS TESTIMONY THAT I COULD NOT BELIEVE ECKROTH TO BE ACCUSED. LATER LEARN FROM (BAKER) THAT ROSS CLAIMED ECKROTH TO BE PRIMARY SUSPECT IN DEATHS OF

FR. TELLS ME IN FRONT OF LOSO STORE, ST. JOSEPH, THAT THE GUY WAS " A PERVERT, ALWAYS TALKING ABOUT SEX"

CONVERSATION WITH FR. MICHAEL MARX IN THE PRESENCE OF " WE HAD TO GET THEM OFF THE CAMPUS, THEY WOULD NOT STOP ASKING FOR SEX FROM OUR STUDENTS". THE THEM/THEY REFER TO THE FORMER MEN'S CHORUS DIRECTOR (KELLY-HEAR TAPE ON FAMILY EPISODE DETROIT LAKE/LAKE MELISSA COTTAGE) AND TO ECKROTH

TRUSTED MONKS HERE BELIEVE THAT ECKROTH IN ROME STUDING FOR AN S.T.D. WHILE THE MCNAMARA TESTS WERE BE ADMINISTERED. QUESTION IF A PERSON HAS SUCH AN ADVANCED DEGREE, WHY THEN NO CLASS SCHEDULE...ONLY CHAPLAINCIES?

JD FAMILY DEATHS

SUSPECT ONE IS SON OF MY MENTOR, BOSS, FRIEND. A STEARNS DEPUTY NOW DECEASED...ONLY FOOT TRACKS LEADING INTO HOME ON DISCOVERY TO DEATH OF WOMAN AND THREE OF FOUR CHILDREN .

SUSPECT TWO: A DIOCESAN PRIEST NOW SERVING AS PASTOR OF OUR LADY OF LAKE PARISH, BATTLE LAKE. THE CHURCH MY FAMILY ATTENDED FOR FORTY PLUS YEARS FROM MY AGE OF NINE YEARS EVERY SUNDAY WE WERE AT LAKE.

IS MY FORMER PREP CLASSMATE 1952-56. I HAVE HELD THIS FROM HIM SINCE BEING QUESTION BY MICHAEL MARX, OSB (DECEASED) IN THE PRESENCE OF WITNESS.

MYRTLE KOHL

QUESTIONED AGAIN BY MICHAEL MARX, OSB (DECEASED). PAUL KNEW ST AUGUST AREA WOMAN FROM ROSE GARDENING EVENTS? POLICE INVESTIGATORS NEED PRINT OF HEEL OF RIGHT HAND TO MATCH BLOOD STAINED SHEET OF THE DECEASED WOMAN.

AND FOR A TIME, WAS BELIEVED TO BE INVOLVED IN THE DEATH OF THE CHILDREN. I BELIEVE SHERIFF WILL PUT AHEAD OF ECKROTH IN DEATH OF CHILDREN.

GOD HELP ME/US!

*PROBLEM
ECKROTH
allegedly
passes into
poly in the
act of
girls
(sex side no
knowledge)*

*Paul Kohl
2 polygraphs*

*End result
Both priests
yet free +
clear*

NOTES FEBRUARY 3RD, 1998
COUNTY ATTY VAN HEEL
KEVIN MCDONOUGH-ARCHD ST PAUL MPLS

THIS MORNING AT APPROXIMATELY 10:00 A.M. FR _____ -THE PASTOR OF _____ CAME INTO THE SHOWROOM. I ASKED THAT HE TAKE A WALK WITH ME AS I HAD SOMETHING TO TALK OVER AND TO SHOW HIM. I TOOK ALONG THE JARVIS PAPER AND TORE OUT OF THE FOLDER THE PAGE 'ADDENDUM IV PART I AND II' WHEREIN I HAD EARLIER DETAILED FR _____ AS BEING A "SUSPECT" IN THE DEATH OF THE _____ CHILDREN, THE MEMBERS, AND A LADY BY THE NAME OF _____

I ASKED _____, WHILE HE WAS READING THE PAGE, HOW HE HAD COME TO BE INVOLVED WITH THESE VARIOUS INVESTIGATIONS. I TOLD HIM THAT I HAD HELD ON TO THE QUESTIONS ABOUT HIMSELF THAT WERE RAISED BY FR MICHAEL MARX OSB OF THIS ABBEY IN THE IMMEDIATE YEAR AND A HALF PRIOR TO FR MICHAEL MARX'S DEATH (CANCER). I ALSO TOLD FR _____ THAT I WAS CONCERNED FOR THE MEMBERS OF HIS PARISH AS THEY WERE AT ONE TIME FRIENDS OF MY FATHER AND MOTHER AND THAT HIS PRESENT PARISH CHURCH WAS THE PLACE WHERE WE, AS A FAMILY, HAD GONE TO MASS EVERY WEEKEND FOR OVER FORTY YEARS THAT WE HAD THE PROPERTY ON OTTERTAIL LAKE.

_____, WITHOUT HESITATION, RESPONDED THAT LOCAL INVESTIGATORS HAD HAD A FILE ON HIM THAT WAS QUITE THICK. *THAT HE HAD FAILED TWO POLYGRAPH EXAMINATIONS BECAUSE OF HIS OWN AGITATION AND THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE CHARGES/INQUIRY. *THAT HE HAD SEEN HIS BISHOP WHO HAD ADVISED HIM TO SEEK LEGAL COUNSEL *THAT HE HAD GIVEN UP A PRINT OF THE HEEL OF HIS RIGHT HAND IN THE _____ ESTIONS *THAT HE HAD ALSO BEEN INVESTIGATED FOR THREE YEARS BY A TWO-MEMBER ARMY INVESTIGATION TEAM AND *THAT ARMY TEAM HAD FOUND NOTHING TO IMPLICATE FR _____. AND, INDEED, *THAT HE HAD BEEN MOVED TO THE RANK OF CHAPLAIN COLONEL AT THE CLOSE OF THE INVESTIGATION AND *THAT HE HAD OTHER CONVERSATIONS WITH LOCAL INVESTIGATORS THAT HAD GONE ON FOR HOURS BUT NOTHING OVER NINETEEN YEARS HAD COME OF IT.

_____, ASKED THAT I NO LONGER DETAIL HIS NAME IN DOCUMENTATION SUCH AS THIS. HE ASKED THAT WE SAY A PRAYER FOR MY FAMILY MEMBERS. WE DID SO. AND THEN COMMENTED THAT BEING INVESTIGATED HAD BEEN A HUMBLING EXPERIENCE FOR HIM. HE ALSO MENTIONED THAT HIS 52-56 PREP EXPERIENCE WAS ALL POSITIVELY REMEMBERED.

WE ENDED THE WALK AND CONVERSATION WITH MY APOLOGY FOR HAVING DOUBTED HIM AND THE MENTION THAT I COULD NO LONGER HOLD BETWEEN MY EARS THE STUFF I HAD HELD TO FOR SO LONG.

CHECK ECKROTH MENTAL HEALTH HISTORY: WAS THIS THE MAN-THE SAME PRIEST WHO KNOCK ON DOORS OF THE COLD SPRING PARISHIONERS AND INTRODUCE HIMSELF AS LAZARUS?
IS ECKROTH ON SSR1?

CHECK WITH SCHINLER-MGR OF 5TH AVE WATERBED STORE IN RE HIS DISCOURSE WITH A FORMER ST.CLOUD-WAITE PARK RESIDENT/BELCLAIR ACRE RESIDENT (_____) WHO HAD CONFESSED TO THE _____ ATHS AT A PARTY IN COLORADO IN FRONT OF SCHINDLER.GAVE _____ THIS INFO OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 1996.

CHECK THE NAME _____ S GUEST VICTIM OF PRIEST E.

CHECK W ATTORNEY STICH/____ ANDERSON ON THE POLYGRPH ALLEGED TO HAVE BEEN PASSED BY ECKROTH ON THE _____ TION AND THE SEX-ABUSE /SAUNA QUESTION.

OSB ECKROTH_00368



THE LITURGICAL PRESS

St. John's Abbey • Collegeville, Minnesota 56321

Phone: 320-363-2213

Toll Free: Phone 1-800-858-5450

Fax: 320-363-3299

Fax 1-800-445-5899

September 10, 1998

De:

Following up on our talk this week, here is the letter which goes into your personnel file.

The matter of bringing up a delicate subject which has nothing to do with your work or with professionally representing The Liturgical Press *while in the context of that representation and work* is a serious one, despite the immediate gravity it has for you.

I appreciated your willingness to hear Peter and me during our meeting on September 8, 1998. We told you that you cannot bring up that subject in the context of work any more. Discussing it in the context of work does not befit professional behavior, and we expect professional behavior from you.

Our judgment is that such behavior is a serious breach of professional behavior, and another incident will result in action, up to and including dismissal from The Liturgical Press.

As we made clear in our meeting, this warning does not preclude your taking steps which you see fit about the above-mentioned subject, but it must be done apart from The Liturgical Press. Nor does this warning preclude you from seeking help to, as you put it, "get this thing out of my soul." But such actions, I repeat, must be done outside the context of The Liturgical Press.

you are a dedicated employee of The Press, and your work over the years has been of great, even immense, benefit to The Press and to the Church. That is very clear from my vantage point. I look to you to continue that good work until such time as you gracefully retire from the Press.

With all personal good wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours,
Rev. Michael Naughton, O.S.B.
(Rev.) Michael Naughton, O.S.B.
Director

cc: Personnel File

OSB ECKROTH_00369

THE COURSE OF THE MEETING WITH FR NAUGHTON, OSB OF THIS ABBEY AND MR DWYER ON SEPTEMBER 8, 1998 I ASKED THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS-

1. WOULD I BE ALLOWED TO FILE WITH THIS LETTER OF REPRIMAND A 28-PAGE LETTER WHEREIN I HAD MADE ACCUSATIONS OF SEXUAL MALFEASANCE AGAINST THE PRIEST, ECKROTH, OF THIS ABBEY?
ANSWER:NO.
2. WOULD I BE ABLE TO ADD TO MY PERSONEL FILE THE SET OF TWO 4-HOUR TAPES AND A COPY OF THE DEPOSITIONS GIVEN IN FAVOR OF THE FAMILIES AND GIVEN ON 24 DECEMBER 1994 AND JANUARY 30, 1995?
ANSWER:NO.
3. I TOLD BOTH MEN THAT THEY HAD ME AT A DISADVANTAGE IN THAT I HAD MET WITH FR DAVID MC CAULEY OF THE MINNESOTA COUNCIL OF CHURCHES ON THE 28 OF AUGUST (DULUTH MCEA) AND HAD SPOKE WITH HIM AS A FRIEND OF THE FAMILY AND NOT AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PRESS. ONE OF THE POINTS OF OUR CONVERSATION WAS THAT I HAD HAD TROUBLE WITH THE USCC COMMITTEE CONFERENCE PUTTING FORMER PERPETRATORS BACK INTO CHURCH JOBS "WHERE THEY HAD NO CONTACT WITH YOUNG PEOPLE." THIS WAS A PARTICULAR CONCERN FOR ME AS I WAS SEEING MY CHURCH PROVIDING JOBS FOR PERPETRATORS WHILE NOT DOING ONE THING FOR THE VICTIMS- EITHER MY TWO CHILDREN OR OTHER VICTIMS AT LARGE ACROSS THIS COUNTRY.
4. I PERSONALLY TAKE THE LETTER OF 8 SEPTEMBER AS A RESCINDING OF THE TERMS OFFERED IN THE LETTER OF ABBOT KELLY DATED IN SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 1994.
5. I TOLD NAUGHTON/DWYER THAT IT WAS DIFFICULT FOR ME TO SEE ECKROTH WALKING ABOUT THE CAMPUS WITH IMPUNITY EACH DAY OF MY WORK WEEK. THAT IT WAS EVEN MORE DIFFICULT FOR ME WHEN I DID NOT SEE HIM IN THAT THERE WAS THEN THE POSSIBILITY THE POWERS HERE HAD ASSIGNED HIM TO A TEMPORARY POSITION WHERE HE WOULD AGAIN HAVE CONTACT WITH CHILDREN.
6. I TOLD NAUGHTON/DWYER THAT IT WAS DIFFICULT FOR ME TO ADDRESS A SECOND PRIEST ~~E~~ WHO WAS IN MY WORK PLACE SINCE 4 SEPTEMBER 1994. I SAID I GREET THIS SECOND INDIVIDUAL WITH A "GOOD DAY" BUT OTHERWISE AVAOID ALL CONTACT WITH HIM. WHEN I LOOK HIM IN HIS FACE, I SEE HIS VICTIM(S) ("ALL MY VICTIMS WERE 17, 18, OR 19 YEARS OF AGE...YOU NEED NOT WORRY ABOUT BRINGING YOUR OWN CHILDREN INTO THE PLANT.")

IN OCTOBER 1994 I WAS ASKED BY FR NAUGHTON "WHAT WOULD PUT MY MIND AT EASE....?" MY ANSWER WAS

"I WANT ECKROTH'S ADMISSION OF GUILT TO BE FILED WITH ATTORNEY GENERAL AND THE SEVERAL CARE FACILITY OFFICERS ATTENDING MY SON...THE ADMISSION OF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT MIGHT THEN CHANGE OUR SON' TREATMENT PLAN AND MEDICATION SCHEDULE...AND DIAGNOSIS
"I WANTED MY CHILDREN TO HAVE MINDS UNCLOUDED BY THIS PERPETRATOR'S ACTS AND LIVING FULL, PRODUCTIVE LIVES..."

TODAY, AT THIS WRITING,
I WANT ECKROTH TO BE ARRESTED AND CHARGED
I WANT A SETTLEMENT FOR THE SON AND DAUGHTER AND THIS FAMILY
I WANT MY CLAIMS TO BE VERIFIED AGAINST
THE LIST (ECKROTH)OF GUEST CHILDREN AT THE COTTAGE /SAUNA
THE STEARNS-BENTON COUNTY LIST OF LEVEL 1-" ? OFFENDERS
THE WETTERLING LIST OF SUSPECTS (ALSO THE LIST)
THE DEPARTMENT OF VITAL STATISTICS SUICIDE LIST
THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES PATIENT LIST
I WANT MY WORK STATUS AND BENEFIT PLAN PROTECTED
I WANT IT TO BE A FELONY OFFENSE WITHOUT A STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS
IN THIS STATE AND A FELONY, NOT A MISDEAMNOR, WHERE
PROFESSIONALS WHO DO NOT REPORT CRIME ARE THEN HELD
CULPABLE
I WANT AN 800 HOT LINE THAT CHILDREN CAN CALL TO REPORT SEXUAL
MALFEASANCE FROM ANY SOURCE EITHER IN/OUTSIDE OF FAMILY
I WANT ACTION. NO HANDSHAKES. NO PROMISES TO "LOOK INTO" NO MORE
APOLOGIES. NO MORE SERMONS. NO SUGGESTIONS TO "WRITE A BOOK"



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OSB ECKROTH_00370

CUTTING WOOD CAN BE GOOD FOR THE SOUL



TIMES PHOTO BY PAUL MIDDLESTAEDT

The warm weather Wednesday helped persuade the Rev. Richard Eckroth to get outdoors and gather fallen trees for firewood by the southwest side of Lake Sagatanagan. He is a retired teacher at St. John's Uni-

versity. He likes to get outdoors to chop wood because he said it is peaceful, and he offers the wood for free to people in the area. For complete forecast, please see Page 8B.

Dear Ms.

Your recent letter published in The Record, suggests that you believe that you have been a victim of clergy sexual abuse. I am writing to call your attention to the fact that St. John's Abbey has a policy with regard to sexual abuse or sexual exploitation by a monk. If you will contact me, I would be happy to meet with you and listen to your story. We can then help to provide you with an advocate for victims and provide counseling as may be appropriate.

Abbot, St. John's Abbey

OSB ECKROTH_00373

SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY

BOX 2015

COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA 56321-2015

OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

April 5, 2001

Dear

Your recent letter published in The Record, suggests that you believe that you have been a victim of clergy sexual abuse. I am writing to call your attention to the fact that Saint John's Abbey has a policy with regard to sexual abuse or sexual exploitation by a monk. If you will contact me, I would be happy to meet with you and listen to your story. We can then help to provide you with an advocate for victims and provide counseling as may be appropriate.

If you choose not to contact me, perhaps you would like to our victim's advocate, Ms. Maxine Barnette, directly at 320-253-6900.

Sincerely,



Abbot John Klassen, OSB

JK/kr

PHONE 320 363-2544 FAX 320 363-3082

OSB ECKROTH_00374

7-02-01

Robber did the interview!

My children
dear

Who to talk to?

felt that

No fault in the lawyers

in the process —

Statute of limitations felt

like to sit down together with me —

Maxine — No fault in her

and her work belief

struggled to committee —

No way that I would go against what

children decided — their

Anderson would not be an ease —

Deposition after — 2 months — after bypass

Abuse of children —

— Parents suffered from health condition —

Goodie, Wlad

going thru
financially -

garageport ~~deputies~~

Cap work early

stay in office

\$5000/year

selling their home

had a place to live -

hobby farm

Mc Robertson -

became committed suicide -

mental problems in

seeing therapist - no hint of possibility

appointment with doctor in SC -

division with those in family

aired on TV

have a dead dog lie -

8-20-01

Born Gregory 1976
Houston Texas

Talked with boys - 257 thru
some time kill

to have feelings with

Supper dinner over all of this
Julie - would } would like to talk with me

Wife/Galen - wanted talk
A. Not possible as -
3 days later -

1995 -> 2000 Red's date early retirement
look-out the boys

kicked out of court

counseling fees -

Sell the house ->

long term plan - Julie - promised

NO attachment benefit ->

Division means of

All things are gone -

Done was wonderful - Jonathan was wonderful
need to be off for 2 weeks -

Meet at St. Augustine

Thomas Richard

Wendy from.

could not attend -

wants to deal with the abuse itself -
stroke -> 18 years after this (not heart attack)
Anderson wanted to deal to abuse -

Julia

Tom out here

few months about of 30 years
long

5 years



lifetime income & cost TAA
Also social security

Amount of .. monthly amount check
continued SS check

Expenses: house payments
car
taxes
insurance
monthly expenses

• Not a week is the mourning of Julie's husband's death

suicide

• 100,000 sent into the turkey operation

• two kids Buddy -

grandson 14 months -

Julie Eckert

the ... start ...
...
...
...

2.5 hours → 3.0 hours

Gradient

5 hours 9 → 2:00 p.m.

423
13
236

3:30 ~~to~~ goal

Saint John's Abbey
Collegeville, Minnesota 56321

Office of the Abbot

September 25, 2001

Further analysis has shown that Father Richard Eckroth will need to have his aortic valve replaced before he can have surgery on the C-6 neck vertebrae. Heart surgery is scheduled for tomorrow, Wednesday, followed by a week to ten days of hospital care, followed by the additional surgery. Please keep him in your prayers.

Abbot John

OSB ECKROTH_00382

Leuthner, Benedict

From: Trezz, Herbert
Sent: Tuesday, October 09, 2001 1:55 PM
To: Leuthner, Benedict
Subject: CONFIDENTIAL

Benedict:
I am not able to determine much from [redacted] I will report what I did find and then what I think the Abbot needs to know before making any decisions.

What we know: Both [redacted] applied for annuities in May 1995. Both chose Two life annuities with a full benefit to the annuity partner (each other) for a guaranteed period of 20 years. Both added extra contributions into their RA's, beginning in 1987 (\$70 per month) and [redacted] in 1989 (\$30 per month). I am not able to determine the amount of their present monthly annuity. However they will have lifetime income from TIAA. The 20 year guarantee referred to above means that if they die within the 20 year beginning 1995 their beneficiaries will receive the remaining balance in their accounts.

[redacted] assumed they have accessed their Social Security but there is no record of that in their files.

What we need to know: Amount of each [redacted] monthly annuity check.
Amount of their combined Social Security checks.
Amounts of any other regular income and how long it is expected.

Expenses; house payment
car
taxes
insurance, medical, Medicare, life, other
monthly on-going, power, phone, refuse, cable , etc.

I'll send you a book from TIAA , "Looking Ahead to Retirement": see pages 16 and 17. These pages provide a worksheet that spells out one's income at retirement and expenses. It's meant as a pre retirement tool but could be used in this case.

Let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Herb

Assistant Procurator St. John's Abbey	1961
Prefect St. Thomas Hall St. John's Abbey	1964 – 1966
Prefect St. Anselm Hall St. John's Abbey	1966 – 1967
Chaplain St. Benedict's Monastery St. Joseph, Minnesota	1967 – 1973
Chaplain St. Benedict's High School St. Joseph, Minnesota	1970
Instructor St. Benedict's High School St. Joseph, Minnesota	1967 – 1970
Associate Pastor St. Augustine's Parish St. Cloud, Minnesota	1973 – 1974
Associate Pastor Seven Dolors Albany, Minnesota	1974 – 1976
Supervisor/Laborer Monastery Construction 1954 Barn removal/flap pole relocation/stone ticket booths Forestry for new I-94; South of Pfleuger, damaged tree removal Renovation of Log Cabin on Clara Kremer Swenson Lake Property St. John's Abbey	1954 - 1977
Associate Pastor Holy Family Church Nassau, Bahamas Islands	1977 – 1978

Pastor/Roofers of churches/Painter of churches St. Robert's, St. Gertrude's, Sacred Heart Church South Andros, Bahamas Islands	1978 - 1986
Pastor/all around contractor St. Benedict's, St. Boniface's, Holy Angel's Church Mangrove Cay Bahamas Islands	1978 - 1986
Construction Supervisor Holy Name Parish Bimini, Bahamas	1987 - 1989
Monastic Member St. Augustine's Monastery Nassau, Bahamas	1989 - 1991
Pastor St. John's Chrysostom Parish Fresh Creek, Andros Bahamas	1991 - 1993
Curator Cemetery St. John's Abbey	1993 - 1999
Chaplain (team) St. Raphael's Convent St. Cloud, Minnesota	1996 - 1999
Chaplain Substitute St. Scholastica Convent St. Cloud, Minnesota	1993 - present
Monastic St. Augustine's Monastery Nassau, Bahamas	1997 (3 months?)
???	

AWARDS

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND OTHER EXPERIENCES OF LEADERSHIP:

INTERESTS AND HOBBIES

Keeping the wood lands clean

Cutting the trees marked for removal for the Oak Savannah 2001

SOME DAY I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO:

MY MAIN ASPIRATION OR FAVORITE DREAM IS LIFE IS TO:

SOME SIGNIFICANT PERSONAL GROWTH EXPERIENCE HAS BEEN:

- 1996 Jubilee trip to Europe

Klassen, John

From: McGraw, Rene
Sent: Wednesday, January 30, 2002 7:59 AM
To: Klassen, John
Subject: FW: re: Record ltr from last fall
Importance: High

Hello Abbot John,

Did Richard send you a copy of this? Probably important to forward it to Bob Stich.

-----Original Message-----

From: Oliver, Richard
Sent: Wednesday, January 30, 2002 6:17 AM
To: McGraw, Rene
Subject: FW: re: Record ltr from last fall
Importance: High

I will forward separately the reply I wrote to Shane and Timo.

--

Bro. Richard Oliver OSB MA | <roliver@csbsju.edu>
Abbey Publicist | 320-363-3939
Web Office | <<http://employees.csbsju.edu/roliver/>>
Collegeville, MN 56321 | <www.saintjohnsabbey.org/>

-----Original Message-----

From: Hoefler, Shane S
Sent: Tuesday, January 29, 2002 10:26 PM
To: Oliver, Richard
Subject: From re: Record ltr from last fall
Importance: High

Br. Richard,

Fr. Timo suggested I contact you regarding this letter. Please contact me with any relevant advice. The Record will not be publishing it or taking up this story, FYI. We don't want to touch it with a 10 foot pole, frankly.

Let me know--
Shane

SHANE S. HOEFER
Editor in Chief, The Record
St. John's University
Collegeville, MN 56321
(320) 363-2891
sshoefer@csbsju.edu; sshoefer@hotmail.com
SSH Reference Desk; Shaneland; The Record

-----Original Message-----

From:
Sent: Tue 1/29/2002 12:36 PM
To: The Record
Cc:
Subject:

Last winter I submitted an article to The Record regarding clergy abuse and cover up at St. John's. I was on Channel 5 in November 2000, on a segment entitled "Confession of Sins" regarding clergy abuse and St. John's. In response to my article I got a

letter from Abbot John Klassen, OSB. The letter read as follows:

Dear

Your recent letter published in The Record, suggests that you believe that you have been a victim of clergy sexual abuse. I am writing to call your attention to the fact that Saint John's Abbey has a policy with regard to sexual abuse or sexual exploitation by a monk. If you will contact me, I would be happy to meet with you and listen to your story. We can then help to provide you with an advocate for victims and provide counseling as may be appropriate.

If you choose not to contact me, perhaps you would like to our victim's advocate, Ms. Maxine Barnette, directly at 320-253-6900.

Sincerely,

Abbot John Klassen, OSB

This letter was dated April 5, 2001. I wrote the Abbot back and told him I would like to meet with him along with a friend to tell him the truth - not just "my story." It is now January 2002 and I never did get a reply back from the Abbot.

Last January 23rd, 2001, I ended up in the hospital again. I have been hospitalized about 6 times since 1993 when I recovered the abuse memories. I have been diagnosed with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. My flashbacks often come with physical symptoms. The flashbacks have not stopped and I have decided I cannot live this way anymore - for my own self and for my children. I am not going to get sick again, I am going to recover.

I have been a responsible member of society raising my children and working full time over 5 years now. I can't do it anymore. I need help. I quit my job about two weeks ago because I cannot work full time, take care of my family, myself and my home and deal with this at the same time. I don't know where I am going to get money to survive yet.

The Abbot wrote me that he would be happy to help but never got back to me. I often wonder if a lawyer told him not to.

You know, if anything is ever going to change and if we are ever going to become healthy people, healthy families and healthy communities and institutions we must always seek the truth no matter what the consequences. I realize it would not be good for "business" for St. John's Abbey to tell the truth and do their best to right the wrongs - but is there any other choice?

I was very disappointed in the response from the public to the "Confession of Sins" program. And I just keep wondering why people, especially people in Stearns County where I grew up, don't respond. Do they think there is no threat of pedophilism anymore. I believe its been going on forever at St. John's and

noonoe will do anything about it. The law enforcement in Stearn's County also has truths they need to expose in order to help stop this illness and they haven't.

The retired detective, (he was an investigator with New York dealing with pedophilism and is not back home in Minnesota) will not give up until this is made public and some justice served. If St. John's thinks this is over - they are way wrong. Jim continually is getting information - some of it coming from St. John's members themselves - but a lot of these people are scared to speak about it.

He has also gone to the governor with the problem and the governor's office basically stated that they were not interested in investigating pedophilism in this state. For some reason, which I don't really understand but does, is that St. John's has a lot of clout and power in this state. is not out to destroy St. John's; however he believes strongly that people should do the job they were hired to do. He also knows how to deal with this in an appropriate manner, yet people at St. John's, including the Abbot, refuse to speak with him.

I have decided to contact Ms. Maxine Barnette for some help and I will keep you updated. I would like the Abbot to get a copy of this letter and to still call me - not about my "alleged" but about the truth. I would also like this letter to go into local newspapers but am not sure how to do that.

Do You Yahoo!?
Great stuff seeking new owners in Yahoo! Auctions!
<http://auctions.yahoo.com>

I apologized to her for this happening to her, ~~for~~
that it should ever have happened —

She did at one point say that she has struggled over
whether what she remembers is real — that it ever
happened, or is just a false memory.

She asked if Fr. Richard had ever been in a
treatment program — I told her St. Luke's —
for 6 months. I did not say that they dismissed
him after two months because they found no evidence
that he was an abuser. Nor did I say anything
to defend Richard

She asked where Richard was — I told her ^{that} that
Richard is no longer assigned to anything where
he would be in a ministerial situation.

I stated she needed other assistance, that she
() could assist " " would facilitate
that assistance.

The meeting was low-key — is a very
delicate person & very fragile — I wanted
very much to ask — what exactly happened? but
did not, fearing that she might not be able to deal
with that question at this time.

Also I told her that I wanted to meet with her
alone so that I could talk to her &

② Note on Leonard...
613312 speaking of Dad

workpage 25,000
free medical for Ed Sr, Jr & friend
Supplemental
more years of service → ?
401k
-11yr - year

Ed Jr disability reduces home SS payout
by 200/month

* Spec to order to educate the parents, in terms of impact of
telling the truth rather than keeping secrets ^{house.}

Parents hospital
19, 17, 16 years old kids
Sum of money & health care
Edie is getting better
Good then

"soft wire" - tell her parents that I believe her.
Want to have the psychiatric issues of
psychosomatic care assured
The last chance to meet with me -
a chance to meet with Richard & Therapist

What is the truth about it?

Q. Just of act, Edie J. Lawrence claimed that he
was the witness by Richard —

When can he be part of a demand statement?

How can he be held responsible for his comment.

Murder situation?

Q. At the time of the murder is that your friend
ever penetrated her —

Q. Claim that Richard had his hand

between her legs all the way home is challenged.

In his statement that there were fingerprints & two boys

if it is the stage room in the back of the hotel in the

1st

The last of water — no necessary water in the kitchen

in separate rooms —

1st floor — no hot water

claims to be distinct and negotiable separately,
May have demanded 1.5 Million I am holding to it

- non-monetary
- Some connection with attorney -
has some cash outlay / Other expenses from last hospitalization
225,000
- future payments to you psychiatric drugs
psychological treatment

Assets -

Settle for cash -

75,000
3

200,000

Maybe a \$200,000 life insurance policy -

Utah ->

3.7 million for 48 claims \$77,000

Capital Annuity - Structured annuity
for lawyer, medical
611.90 / month for life
100,000 Annuity

8000 / year will give if any medical eventually need

For minutes on paper for Ed, Su, & Jane

Notes

Jan 5, 2000 → you didn't get...

300,000 →

Merge how into the

- I need to have Bob call Jeff Anderson. Visits being proposed
- Iris to Africa
- need to get a meeting together. Get

Want to meet with Senior Council

Need to have someone to run the meeting, but also how to focus the flow of the meeting.

- Will arrange a meeting with Senior Council
- a meeting with Blue Mountains

~~Meeting~~ Merge how - 10/10/2000

All these have helped →

minutes of meeting - receiving medication

Government for meeting

system of medication

~~strongly~~ strongly suggest that Mennie will help to focus their presentation.

1 hour in length -
will be in the afternoon.

What is the line of communication with me
regarding setting up the meeting with SL?
Who sets it up?

Meeting site - Foghorn

Agenda - Holiday Fun

What are you known to

Call Bob Smith if it has been discussed by
9:00 a.m. on Wednesday 17 Sept.

February 26, 2002

Dear Abbot Klassen,

Thank you for meeting with me last week.

Maxine is going to check ~~it~~ into treatment / therapy options for me. I am looking for something more intensive than an hour per week. I don't want to spend the next ten years in and out of therapy and I don't want to go to the hospital again.

Attached is copies of my pay stubs for the month of December before I couldn't handle it anymore. This is what I need until I get back on my feet. I also need \$316 per month to pay health insurance premiums since I'm not working.
Sincerely,

February 28, 2002

Abbott John Klassen
St. John's Abbey
Collegeville, Mn. 56321

Dear Abbott John,

Thank you for meeting with _____ and me. Your genuine compassion and concern was very apparent and that is so important to survivors of abuse.

I am enclosing a letter from _____ which she faxed to me along with wage statements for one month's work. _____ was unable to keep her job due to the fact that she was hospitalized and is currently unstable. She is pursuing doing computer work at home for various companies, but it will take awhile for this to jell.

She was wondering if you would be willing to help support her for the next couple of months while she gets things going. Looks like about \$1,400 per month. She also needs help in paying \$316.00 per month for her health insurance so that she can continue her therapy.

On another note I received a call from _____ She lives in _____ She would like to meet with you but would need help for the cost of the flight.

I'm thinking that maybe you and I should meet as I may be getting calls from others. I think it would be good to hear your perspective on these happenings.

I can be reached at 253-6900 during most days.

Thank you,

Maxine

Maxine Barnett

OSB ECKROTH_00397

SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY

BOX 2015

COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA 56321-2015

OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

March 20, 2002

Dear

Thank you for coming to see me and telling me about your situation. I know that this was very hard for you and took a great deal of courage. I received your request for assistance through Maxine Barnett and I enclose \$2000. I am hoping that this will be of help over the short haul.

Sincerely,



Abbot John Klassen, OSB

PHONE 320 363-2544 FAX 320 363-3082

OSB ECKROTH_00398

REMITTANCE
VOUCHER

ORDER OF ST. BENEDICT
ST. JOHN'S ABBEY ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY
ST. JOHN'S PREPARATORY THE LITURGICAL PRESS
COLLEGEVILLE, MN 56321-5000

DETACH BEFORE
DEPOSITING

DATE **INVOICE #** **ACCOUNT #**

03/20/02 DONATION

2,000.00

2,000.00

2,000.00

2,000.00

03/20/2002

OSB ECKROTH_00399

Conversation with Mike 4-02-02

Web page

- ✓ ① Piers - Anne Anzie
- ✓ ② values & core men live
- ✓ ③ meet with
- ✓ ④ meet with
- ✓ ⑤ ~~Henry~~ sourced almost exclusively
on Richard, but also
mentioned Tom Callaghan / John Edwards
- ⑥ Isaac ->

By

Website - linkages

~~Colleges did not step in~~

heart to heart talk with Richard
was in the books

Asd Timothy about Peter -

Michael B...
John Kelly (150/16)
not change for prep

I followed up with Timothy on Richard -

I

... marden name

up at

[redacted] - today

several times -

kids

no a real sense of right or wrong

no problems today, you should adult

9 or 10 years old

winter or summer

now 41

young gang up there

could not wear put on, it
a bathing suit because of would swim

rip tags - clearly I wore but didn't work too well
put on -

yes, with

ing - focusing per should be

climbing on his shoulders + stem for swimming
not always with top into the water
underwear - M

by with his arm rubbing his to her back
never contacted her -
Richard's funny thing leather front/back
bone

~~Richard~~ only when she was alone once, hours later
back rubbed, did she feel funny about it,
what they would think something was wrong
does not remember anyone ever touching her back

50-75 times

She wants to know

quite a lot

just

buried him in the sand ^{buried} ^{penis}
penis
but it was all in vain -

he did not rape me

remember feelings

4-02
- good therapist
→ her insurance pays 60%
of her deductible
X number of sessions →
8 sessions
All well.

Join cities

Richard Eckroth

billing:

Need to get price/session

Done on 7-02-02

April 17, 2002

①

1978 →
45 Sheriff's
Archdiocese
of Chicago

Meeting with Mr.
in the presence of

28 March - SC Group

Off. Guerdle —
Believed that he had sexually abused
- that 20 years ago
Report to the Sheriff - Mr. [unclear]
Another part →

→ MSW — + Bob [unclear]

involved with

John — Ryan — House 44
Boy popped 1978 kitchen fire 2nd 4
Meningeal, including his penis
Grade: 9th/10th — + [unclear] 3 years
being called — 1958 married

a call because [unclear] —
No indication that [unclear] would be involved in it
Linda Day → taking children into custody —
Appointed & totally mishandled
family doctor —

Message all
over, including
his penis ...

Boy would be his being [unclear]
John McNamara — 6 or 8 [unclear]
went to see — Hospital → new [unclear] sexual abuse
"you could smell [unclear] on his breath"
8 or more years [unclear]
Questions: Did Richard ever celebrate [unclear] [unclear]?

- woman (chick) in the area -
- name of Favian McDonald - sophomore year - (2)
- Do not associate with -
- When you talked these people -
- knew the cuba was talking about socially
- already & go after
- McDonald - you had look

Hired work - uncle - Pontefract -
 → Baldwin - know him
 social worker would not call the cops
 another man -

2 sons
 • W. Wells - Stearns P. investigator
 - gun smelted - deaths
 interviewed in front of
 had given a glowing positive of my
 Attitude toward Eckroth positive
 → told him
 pictures of Eckroth & pictures of both grand & other kids
 - given him picture as well

Wells who went to state hosp
 Childrens Home, State hosp, etc
 other
 • was list that Eckroth had
 • 577 suicides
 lister against the list
 210 → 380 names there →

BLA
young

(3)

...

I can't do anything - 5 attorneys

longer

1982

kid at Piers → Perregrin -

couldn't be

AV manager → young boy - DMZ →

came to St. John's

Crimestoppers → any body to call → sexual
by Finian McDonald satisfaction

9 kids → 23 kids → Sauna

cannot verify

70% at sauna

Jerome Thierin in July 1982

What would you have me do?

I think you should take both men out of circulation
to Tom

Tom out of Robert Northwestern heart club now
within 4 weeks - Eckroth back in

F. back in P.D. at Dean Spacht -

So fundamentally no

John Bilenchuk

Joe Seid's Bu. wedding -

There is John Burns - bottle of scotch -

"Conservative right - my cocksucker"

did go into treatment →

(4)

Americus : Didn't want to take the stuff home
In order to show →

English major → here →
working 95 hours week to pay for tuition —
James F →

Confronted ~~Dr~~ Eckroth as a pedophile
1982 court commitment

Chopped hospital hit

St. Peter →

\$10,000 to get him out of that place

Ed Dumbarger — Perpich

apologized for the way that his case was handled.

Long side patients when in Branford after
Share Boy's left —

Man,

13% interest

Why are they doing this to your family

12 years to pay off loan

after 20 years

paying more than I borrowed

loan from mother/brother

1st continues to grow

man dead by suicide —

19 years —

Two golden roses → slow shop — to son & wife
Cape Spring.

down —

rested — 5 did to ...

in writing — put it

in video — " " — 5

want to change / no change in limitation of
want people that don't act on information
to use because or go to jail

what for 585/monthly SST
not money →

can payment / and insurance
94 girls
deal for 1000
money goes back -

supposed to be a girl's
drug induced psychosis - schizophrenic (past
now 9/2

raped 9-11 year old kid -
His whole

Madonna
quote church fathers asked sexual
quote scripture

cannot help himself, help us -
faces in
social life with young people in 50
go out of my mind if he didn't go out -

1990 → "Heart of the Beast" big heads on streets
feeder - 3 mos -

Eckroth - won the game → Coaches - 2
Fair Queen - put this on -
down to set her up & got into her vagina -
full naked rub down with her; hand on her pubes

1990 - 5 12 years
that stuff was going

①

Quinn's daughter of
Marriage suits, socks & legs
strip of cloth

Seized him in the grand
style between

One girl will say →

pecking out

Knife on here - use it if she didn't shut up -

1994 Paul Schneider → Timothy Kelly -

two letters - please come forward

at two other boys naked with Edna

other sexual fav - call him Ner

Accounts now -

had not been to church since that

needed to come out of her soul -

families -

• Repositioned Physics →

presented up in a class

93rd of December of 1994

7 a.m. until 6:30 at night in January

Beppoth was to have gone

Howe's got that scheduling - Statute of Limitations

no civil trial → done →

Went him to give a public confession
5000000 for
saying about lib in legislative

205 pages of ~~the~~ deposition

Danden

MCA - Duluth

Abbey confines suspect priests

Priests must avoid scandal, stay celibate, pope says

VATICAN CITY (AP) — In a strong message days before a summit of U.S. churchmen on a sex abuse scandal, Pope John Paul II said Saturday that priests must live celibate lives and avoid scandalous behavior. Bishops, he said, must investigate such behavior and take action to end it.

Speaking to Nigerian bishops, the pope didn't directly refer to the scandal in the American Church. But the timing appeared to signal a position going into the summit and a firm policy that he doesn't tolerate behavior shown by some U.S. churchmen.

"The value of celibacy as a complete gift of self to the Lord and his Church must be carefully safeguarded," John Paul said.

The comments were the pope's most extensive regarding celibacy since claims of abuse began earlier this year. At the summit, the cardinals will be looking for guidance on a range of issues, including whether offenders should be reassigned and creating a policy for reporting claims to police.

'Opportunity' awaits pope, Klassen says

St. John's Abbot John Klassen, the highest-ranking member of the local monastic community,



Pope John Paul II



Photo courtesy of Ed Vessel Sr.

Ed Vessel Sr. says his son, Ed Jr. (squatting), was sexually abused by the Rev. Richard Eckroth (with glasses) at this cabin on Swenson Lake. No one else in the photo is known to have made allegations against Eckroth.

Abbot investigates what really went on at the abbey's lake cabin

By Kristin Gustafson and David Unze
Times staff writers

Ed Vessel Sr. feels as if he's been running into a stone wall for more than 24 years, ever since the day his namesake tried to walk off the roof of his prep school.

Vessel, who has worked half his life at St. John's Liturgical Press, still struggles when describing what followed his son Ed's attempt to end his life in March 1978. Every time he comes close to proving what drove his son to suicide and subsequent hospitalizations, he hits rejection, his equivalent of a stone wall.



Times photo by Joaquin Slopach

Ed Vessel Sr., an employee at The Liturgical Press at St. John's University, has worked since 1978 to get something done about the abuse he says his son suffered at the hands of the Rev. Richard Eckroth.

the 1970s.

Eckroth denies the allegations, Abbot John Klassen

ing health. When contacted Saturday at his monastery residence, he referred all questions to the abbey monk

the last thing I do in this state, it's to change that state code.

The statute of limitations on reporting abuse of minors is three years in Minnesota. Vessel supports a bill, fundering in the Legislature, to allow victims to sue abusers for 30 years after they reach adulthood.

Second, Vessel wants St. John's to reimburse the state and taxpayers for hospitalizations and medications that he says have become a staple for his son and others who have been abused.

And finally, Vessel wants a confession. He felt some hope when, for the first time Friday, the abbey publicly acknowledged that a former

Up to 15 have limits on their activities

By Kristin Gustafson and David Unze
Times staff writers

St. John's Abbey restricts and oversees the lives of 12 to 15 monks or priests who could pose a risk to the community.

Most of them, including former Abbot John Eidsenschink, have been accused of or have admitted to sexual abuse, Abbot John Klassen said Friday.

The men saddled with "appropriate safeguards" — a term used in the abbey's sexual abuse and sexual exploitation policy — are limited to where they can go, what they can do and whom they might encounter.

"With each, we set up specific boundary conditions — where they may be and not be, who they may work with," Klassen said.

Restrictions include keeping the men off college or prep school grounds and out of university athletic facilities.

About 196 monks live and work at St. John's University, the Preparatory School and The Liturgical Press. St. John's Abbey monks also serve in parishes, hospitals and retirement centers, mainly in Minnesota, and in small monastic communities



John Eidsenschink

Former abbot

See LIMITS, 5A ▶

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'Opportunity' awaits pope, Klassen says

St. John's Abbot John Klassen, the highest-ranking member of the local monastic community, views this week's summit between Pope John Paul II and U.S. cardinals as an opportunity for the pope.

"He has the power to convene. He has the moral authority to say to the bishops and cardinals, 'We need to talk,'" Klassen said. "I'm hoping he takes this opportunity to be creative and bold and very compassionate for the suffering of a lot of people of the church of the United States."



Photo courtesy of Ed Vessel Sr.

Ed Vessel Sr. says his son, Ed Jr. (squatting), was sexually abused by the Rev. Richard Eckroth (with glasses) at this cabin on Swenson Lake. No one else in the photo is known to have made allegations against Eckroth.

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Vessel, who has worked half his life at St. John's Liturgical Press, still struggles when describing what followed his son Ed's attempt to end his life in March 1978. Every time he comes close to proving what drove his son to suicide and subsequent hospitalizations, he hits rejection, his equivalent of a stone wall.

He believes Ed Vessel Jr., known as "Little Ed," was sexually abused by a priest. His quest for confirmation and justice has led to dozens of similar stories from others.

They all were guests of the Rev. Richard Eckroth at a St. John's-owned cabin on Swenson Lake in Beltrami County.

"I expect to be sued," Vessel said of his allegations that Eckroth molested his son and other children in



Times photo by Joaquin Slopack

Ed Vessel Sr., an employee at The Liturgical Press at St. John's University, has worked since 1978 to get something done about the abuse he says his son suffered at the hands of the Rev. Richard Eckroth.

the 1970s. Eckroth denies the allegations, Abbot John Klassen said. But Klassen said Friday that he will investigate Vessel's claims and wants to talk with any victims of sexual abuse by priests or monks. And as recently as last month, he authorized the abbey to pay \$2,000 to help one victim who came forth against Eckroth.

Eckroth, 76, has never been charged. Earlier this year, he was injured while cutting wood and is in failing health. When contacted Saturday at his monastery residence, he referred all questions to the abbey public relations office.

Vessel needs his job and income to care for his ailing wife, but he's willing to risk it. He said he has grown impatient after years of trying to get the attention of law enforcement, abbey personnel, social workers and lawyers. So he's gone public, demanding three things before he dies. "I'm 63 years, 4 months old," he said. "If it's

the last thing I do in this state, it's to change that state code."

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Second, Vessel wants St. John's to reimburse the state and taxpayers for hospitalizations and medications that he says have become a staple for his son and others who have been abused.

And finally, Vessel wants a confession. He felt some hope when, for the first time Friday, the abbey publicly acknowledged that a former abbot abused two monks in the 1970s. Klassen also discussed his belief that another priest, the Rev. Cosmas Dahlhelmer, abused two young boys in the 1970s.

"We need to address these things honestly and directly," Klassen said Friday. "That's the only way to regain the trust of the community."

See CABIN, 4A ▶

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See LIMITS, 5A

What's inside

■ Read Abbot John Klassen's statement, Saturday's stories at news.sc-times.com.

■ Where money come from for settlements/4A

■ Klassen considers openness policy change/4

■ 1985 meeting shelved abuse report/4A

■ How the abbey and the diocese differ/5A

Museum exhibit brings Keillor's Wobegon to life

National Geographic photographer's work goes on display today

By Liz Kohman
Times staff writer

A fictional city in Central Minnesota, brought to life with Garrison Keillor's words and a National Geographic photographer's pictures, is the new exhibit at the Stearns History Museum.

"In Search of Lake Wobegon" features photographs of Central Minnesota by Richard Olsenius and stories from Lake Wobegon written by Keillor.

The exhibit opens today.

If you go ...

What: "In Search of Lake Wobegon."
When: Through Sept. 30.

Where: Stearns County History Museum, 235-33rd Ave. S.

Olsenius will be at the museum to sign books from noon to 3 p.m. Visitors also can enjoy refreshments and the music of Paul Imbolte.

Lake Wobegon is a town Keillor describes in his books and weekly public radio show as a place "where the women are strong, the men are good-looking and

Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Saturday; noon to 4 p.m. Sunday.
Cost: \$4 for adults, \$2 for children, \$10 for families.
Information: 253-8424 or (866) 253-8424.

the children are above-average." Many of the stories are inspired by life in Stearns County.

The town might not exist on a map, but Keillor has a clear vision of where it thrives.

"People want stories to be true," Keillor said in a news

See KELLOR, 7A ▶



Times photo by Kimm Anderson

Stearns County History Museum curator Steve Penick and assistant director Ann Mehang photographs for "In Search of Lake Wobegon," a traveling exhibit of 46 Central Minnesota images from Garrison Keillor's book that goes on display at the museum today.

Today's index

Advice.....2C Local.....1B
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Lifestyle.....1C Travel.....8C

Deaths/Page 3B

■ Clara Czech, Little Falls
■ Margaret E. Daniels, Annandale
■ Dennis Ethen, Elk River
■ Louis Theis, Eden Valley
■ John Zak, Little Falls

Coming Monday

The recording industry and consumers are at odds more than ever about the right to make digital copies and movies. The Times technology section delves into issue of piracy versus fair use.

Advertisement

Miller BUILDING SITE
(near major highway)
Business \ Commercial \ Industrial
320.251.4109

PROPERTIES

4/23/02

Abbot John, Dietrich, William,

Bob Stich has approved the statement sent this a.m., and the following will be sent to the SJU Board of Regents, the SOT Board of Overseers and the SJU Cabinet this afternoon at 4:15 unless I hear otherwise from you.

Patti

In light of continued national and local attention on issues of clergy misconduct, Saint John's Abbey affirms its commitment to address and resolve these matters.

A Statement from Saint John's Abbey

Allegations of sexual abuse by monks of Saint John's Abbey have been a matter of public record for several years. Each of these allegations has been promptly and thoroughly investigated. Every effort has been made to contact possible victims of abuse so that they can tell their story and receive the care they need. It is the policy of Saint John's Abbey to protect all children and vulnerable adults from abuse by members of the monastic community. In every instance, the primary concern is that victims of abuse receive support and healing. Steps are also taken to insure that those who have abused work only in positions where others are not vulnerable.

The news media continue to report deeply disturbing allegations of sexual abuse made against Fr. Richard Eckroth. Each of these allegations has been investigated, and Abbot John Klassen continues to meet with those who believe themselves to be victims of abuse by Fr. Richard. Despite diligent efforts it has not yet been possible to establish the facts of these complex and disturbing allegations. However, Abbot John Klassen is determined to pursue this case until it is resolved and justice is served. Meanwhile, it is the policy of Saint John's Abbey to offer pastoral care and assistance to those who have come forward with allegations against Fr. Richard. At every step Saint John's Abbey has complied with Minnesota state law, worked with local authorities and will continue to do so.

The pain caused by sexual abuse is deep. When it occurs at the hands of those charged with proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ, it is unconscionable. The monks of Saint John's Abbey will do everything in their power to ensure that those in pain find healing and that such pain is prevented in the future.

OSB ECKROTH_00413

Skudlarek, William

From: Szarke, Christopher
Sent: Tuesday, April 23, 2002 4:54 PM
To: Klassen, John
Cc: McGraw, Rene
Subject: Fr. Richard Eckroth

Dear Abbot John,

Today in Spiritual Direction with Rene, I mentioned a conversation that happened today. Rene suggested that I share that information with you:

During my afternoon work assignment in laundry with _____ she told me that one of the girls who had been at the cabin with Fr. Richard Eckroth was a cousin _____ late husband. This cousin _____ id, told her that nothing happened on the visit.

Please let me know how I can support the work you are doing, Abbot John. I appreciate all you are doing to create healing.

Peace,
Christopher



1615A 1st Str
Tel

Post-it® Fax Note 7671 Date 4/23 # of pages 2

To TO Brother Kelly From Sue

Co./Dept. Co.

Phone # Phone #

Fax # Fax #

NG

SALES PERSON: SL IT

CTDIYF

PAGE: 01

TO: ST JOHNS ABBEY
ATT BROTHER KELLY RYAN
BOX 2015
COLLEGEVILLE MN 56321-2015

Please verify departure times directly with airline 24 hrs. prior to departure.

NORTHWEST	800-441-1818	DELTA	800-221-1212
AMERICAN	800-433-7300	TWA	800-221-2000
AMERICA WEST	800-225-9292	UNITED	800-241-6522
CONTINENTAL	800-828-0280	US AIR	800-428-4322
OMNI	877-718-8801	AIR TRANS	800-247-8728
CHAMPION	800-367-6961	AMERICA TRANS AIR	800-225-2895
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FOR:

26 APR 02 - FRIDAY
AIR NORTHWEST AIRLINES FLT:614 ECONOMY
LV SPOKANE 110P
ERP: AIR US A320
22HR 47MIN
NEAPOLIS ST PL 557P
LINDBERGH TERMINAL
NON-STOP
ST PL ALAMO RENT A CAR REF: MXWFOZ
INTER 4DR CAR AUTO A/C

CA
RATE 5P
AIR/10A
IN 4 DAYS 0 HRS USD MI/KM EX
DAILY RATE 49.60 UNL she w
TRA DAY- 23.24 UNL to pay car
TRA HOUR- 16.50 UNL
MANDATORY CHARGES 64.60
APPROX RENTAL COST 263.00 UNL
CONFIRMATION NUMBER 05178251

02 AI - TUESDAY
AI NOR HWEST AIRLINES FLT:619 ECONOMY
LV MINNEAPOLIS ST PL 1116A
PART: LINDBERGH TERMINAL
AR SPOKANE 1218P

HCO XDB150110716

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OSB ECKROTH_00415



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SALES PERSON: SL

DATE: 23 APR 02
PAGE: 02

CTDTYP

TO: ST JOHNS ABBEY
ATT BROTHER KELLY RYAN
BOX 2015
COLLEGEVILLE MN 56321-2015

Please verify departure times directly with airline 24 hrs. prior to departure.			
NORTHWEST	800-441-1818	DELTA	800-221-1212
AMERICAN	800-433-7300	TWA	800-231-2000
AMERICA WEST	800-235-9292	UNITED	800-241-6922
CONTINENTAL	800-526-0280	US AIR	800-426-4322
OMNI	877-716-8801	AIR TRAVEL	800-247-8726
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 PLEASE RECONFIRM YOUR RETURN/CONTINUING RESERVATION
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 INSURANCE WHICH ALSO COVERS BANKRUPTCIES
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OSB ECKROTH_00416

Conversation with Mr. Pothofski

4-29-02

condemned - death certificate

Thur

RICO statute suit

Get him to the family

every personal enterprise

Take home
Message

What's not gotten or owned -
do a little

Apply damages

Jeff Anderson →

2 Did Robert John de...
Richard of the Bahamas because there
was knowledge of allegations?

Who are we talking
about

Richard ordained in 1952
Lang at Philosophy until 1972
1972 -> 1976 Absent

Question to Richard
Did you ever go into the same
~~area~~ asked or with Banks
on with girls?

MacNamara - K... ->
"Richard should never enter the
rooming"
Time chronology - not possible.
Had ordered a couple

Never again

Which case was dismissed with prejudice in 1995 or so?

Ryan, Kelly

From: JBK
Sent: Monday, May 06, 2002 11:25 AM
To: Ryan, Kelly
Subject:



Kelly -- this letter should go out to day -- with a check for 10,000 from Benedict's special account.

SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY

BOX 2015

COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA 56321-2015

OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

May 6, 2002

Dea

Maxine Barnett e-mailed me that you are in further need of assistance. Further, that the counseling has been helpful to you, which was gratifying to me. I know that this ordeal has been very hard for you and has taken a great deal of courage. I enclose \$10,000 and I am hoping that this will be of help over the short hall.

Sincerely,



Abbot John Klassen, OSB

PHONE 320 363-2544 FAX 320 363-3082

OSB ECKROTH_00422

Dear Fr. Abbott

After long deliberation and conversations this is what we came up with if indeed St. John is willing to give us some compensation for our ordeal that we went thru with the sexual abuse of our boy. If you think we are out of line that is fine also then whatever you decide will be more than helpful to us to get us back on our feet. We thought this would be a fair settlement.

50,000 in a lump sum to start and then 4,000⁰⁰ a month annuity for 10 yrs. payable to should something happen to us before the 10 yrs. are up, hopefully this would be tax free.

Thank you in advance for your kindness and concern for us and our family and God be with you in your decision in handling this terrible crisis in the church. We will continue to pray for you to have the strength and courage to continue this investigation and make sure this never happens again.

Also when do you think we can expect this to take place?

F. Abbot

Skudlarek, William

From: Trenz, Herbert
Sent: Monday, May 06, 2002 4:11 PM
To: Klassen, John
Subject: Annuity Cost

Abbot John:

I was able to get some preliminary costs for the purchase of an annuity. If we were sure we were going to purchase I would have surveyed a greater number of companies but this takes more time and I assumed you wanted the costs now.

An annuity paying \$725 per month for 10 years would cost approximately \$67,703.

An annuity paying \$1,000 per month for 10 years would cost approximately \$93,383.

Hope this helps. Please let me know if I can be of any further help.

Herb

05/06/02

Abbot John Klassen OSB
Saint Johns Abbey
Collegeville, MN 56321-2015
(866)508-4466

Father Abbot;

First and foremost I must commend you on the recent changes in the statements and actions of St. Johns Abbey. I am writing this letter, for what ever purpose it may serve, I am unsure what that may be, but it will make me feel better to know you have read my views, and have some understanding of where my family is at with all this abuse. This letter may fall on deaf ears, and so be it.

You know my whole family's history, with my two brothers as I am sure you are well aware of my case as well.

I must state I have seen more promising statements, and read more material since you have been abbot, then all along. I commend you for your efforts and for taking the time to speak to my mother & father. As you very well know from talking to them, they are devastated, and this really has had an impact on them, especially my father for having put so many years of his life in at St. Johns. Heck, my brother

I have always been afraid to say a word to anyone, for that simple fact. He has children of his own and I have seen what this has done to my father. Have you had to watch your 70-yr. old father cry like a child? I cannot bear it...

You know something father? I have agonized over all this and what it possibly would do to my family for many years. I then tell my story and it is all dis-credited and made out to be almost like I asked for and deserved the abuse. Why? Was I cute? Was my family readily accessible to these individuals at St. Augustines Parish? That would be a yes! Hell, father Cosmos even followed our family to St. Joe right after we moved there. Now isn't that a coincidence? I'll bet don't think so. I had always suspected it happening to them also but we as boys never discussed it but I knew, we would all run & hide when any of them came to our home.

As for Father Richard, do you honestly believe he is innocent?

Look Father; go and look at their records and you will see many disturbing things of suspected abuse, paid off hush money in cases, many allegations of abuse well before we ever went public.

There is therapy and many re-assignments and its all there.

During my particular case the Defense team, the wonderful SJ Abby, Fr. Roman, Fr. Rene, your attorneys Jerome Klukas & Robert Stich and not to leave out Ms. Maxine Barnette have all played their part in undermining what has happened here, and it is a real tragedy.

Your Predecessor was I believe deeply concerned, but for the image of St. Johns Abby and the University in the most part. That is evident by all of their actions.

Maxine Barnette is not an advocate for an abused person by the clergy; she is an advocate for St. John's Abby. I had witnessed her pumping my parents for information while the proceeding's were taking place, and had I known all the legal mumbo-jumbo and what she was representing, I would not have allowed her

OSB ECKROTH_00426

to dupe my parents by sitting at the table for dinner, much like Father Cosmos and father Richard had for many years. That is a Joke, do you know these two were at our house for dinner every holiday, baptism, birthday, wedding, and performed sacraments and such to my family?

What would that do to you religion Father?

It makes me sick to my stomach.

Thank god for father Louis, he has passed away but was an associate pastor at St. Augustines.

I had told him in a round -a-bout way and asked him questions way back then to try to cope with all this. I was older than my brothers were, so maybe it was easier or harder for me I am not sure.

Father Louis kept me in check and busy with serving mass with him and taught me a lot about god, my faith and what to expect. He was a great man, read up on him. I can't recall his last name, but my mother knows.

Anyway, the illustrious defense team put me in front of Father Richard for a deposition after not dealing with all this for over 25 yrs, which after running out and getting sick in the stairwell of the attorney's office I continued. It was the most difficult thing I have ever went through, watching Eckroth scratch on a note pad, and not look up once, not have the guts to address me or anyone, and walk out with his attorneys after all that joking and carrying on. I then passed him one day on the highway, he was driving an abbey car, and I was headed back to my parent's house. I will not tell you the thoughts I had that day, but my intentions were not good, and he may thank god that I had presence of mind and body. That I assure you. Why is it that all the records never got produced of Father Richards medical, personnel file etc?

Where are they and why did everything get brushed under the carpet?

I have not read them, but I guarantee if the were made available, there would be no doubt in anyone's mind, nor a court of law's that he belongs in prison. Father Cosmos?

Poor Father Cosmos is too old and has mental problems and cant talk to anyone?

I highly doubt it. Before my mother quit working at StJohns she was informed of some of the guys state of health & mind. That is why she is not there anymore, she couldn't stomach working in food service and for the monastery and hearing the remarks, and watching them all live in their little world, sheltered by the abbey. **YOU ARE NOT ABOVE THE LAW !**

It is all ok though, because if you have faith then you know as well as I do that God's law will prevail anyway, and you I feel sorry for put in this position to have to clean up this mess many have allowed to go on for years.

I feel terrible for you, as my father has explained to me who you are, and that you were student there at St. Johns at one time. Then you also know some of the shenanigans that go on, IM sure you have seen many in your years studying there.

What I feel bad about for you abbot, is that unless you do something drastic, and make this stop for the future of our children, you are an accomplice, by association.

You have the power to remove these men from the priesthood. **NO , SEQUESTERED IN A MONESTARY DORM IS NOT GOOD ENOUGH !** They have no business in that monastery, nor anywhere near it and you know it.

All this legal effort and hiding and moving blame, and moving priests and blanketed under the Abby and the law must stop. I know, god as my witness I have nothing to fear, but these perpetrators have everything to fear. Why didn't the Abby use their Legal Efforts and power in the churches to make an example out of these that you know are guilty, its there in their records **LOOK !**

Why has The Abbey done nothing but sweep 90 % of the cases under the rug because of the Statutes?

DO you not believe my family and me when we tell you this?

You go look at the pain in my mother and Fathers eyes Abbot Klassen; I have seen all I want to see.

You come here and meet me when you come to Dallas for the Bishops Conference, I will be here, and I live near

I will be right outside standing there, waiting to talk to anyone that will listen. I have that right, I am not believed, but there are a lot of similar people out there, and they will be there too.

Come hear the pain all this has caused me, with emotional problems, marriage, sexual & Self-Esteem. Maybe you can explain all this to my two sons when they are old enough and that is coming up soon. I don't want to be the one to crush them and their religion & faith. They will know someday, how will I tell them when they ask?

So, where does that leave all this and you and the Abby?

You can continue dis-crediting every case that comes up one by one, just as it has happened in the past. I was promised help by the Abby and that was shut off. I filed my lawsuit when this happened and not before. I can say that anything that happens in the future to the Abby and the Catholic Church is well deserved and just.

In no way was my family out to get a handout ever. The instances are real as you are sitting there breathing, and were wrong and a crime. I filed a lawsuit for compensation for counseling and future costs and legal fee's. I got barely enough to cover the legal costs, and continue to have spent well over \$10,000.00 in counseling since the Abby stopped paying. It is also agreed that the counseling continue as part of the settlement agreement, you might want to go read that in my case, as well as I have kept up my part of the bargain, and once again have been quiet, let the Abby and this whole tragedy and lawyers have me sign a gag order that I cannot talk. Once again victimized by the organization you have total control over. I would love for someone to ask me about the settlement, since it has been breached just like I knew it would be from day one. I will talk to whoever will listen, and I am in the process of writing a book. I have to get the words out somehow. I fear nobody when it comes to this, I am tired of sitting back and being victimized over and over, will it ever go away?

I guess the process is over but I still see it everytime I look into the face of my parents and family. The fear of my brother loosing his lively hood at St. Johns. The pain in my parent's eyes, and that is now my memories of Minnesota and what I have to look forward to when I return.

I wouldn't wish it on my worst enemies.

May god help you all !

I know you will need it.

I still have my faith in god, but my religion is no longer based on fear as taught by priests and what I learned as a youngster. I do not fear god, but I feel happy knowing I have a place, and I know I do, and no building or organization, nor Abby has given me that, nor can take it away.

I found him and what I feel all own my own, and through all this hurt and mistrust and being abused and victimized, it is a miracle I know Jesus Christ in any form.

I sat on a bench at Laguardia airport in 1982 leaving in a snowstorm for the United States Airforce.

I was stranded, and had nor direction in my life whatso-ever.

All I knew was I was running away from all my problems, and I felt good.

The loneliness I experienced caused me to marry, and make some bad choices, but I am a better person for that. Hell, the loneliness is better than what I experienced so for in my 18 yrs back then.

Anyway, an old man sat down next to me on the bench and said nothing. He didn't have a tooth in his

head, and just sat there looking at me now and then. He dug for a matchbook cover and a motioned to me for a pen saying nothing, and I gave him one. He wrote for the longest time and handed me the snip of paper. I opened it cuz it was folded like the matchbook is, and started to read.

It said : " Looking back for one Yesterday, can cost you all your tomorrow's".

I looked up and he was gone, that my friend was an angel, and I have never told anyone that story, but I carry the tattered paper in my billfold. Who was that old man, I don't know but I am hoping it was my dead grandfathers or something on that order coming to tell me to push ahead.

I will know who it was when he greets me when I pass, I think whomever it was will be there.

I don't know what the future holds, not if this letter will even make you think, but god bless you in your efforts, and you must do the right thing.

You must do what is right for the victims & their family's.

You may not go back and do what is right for my family, and us but I surely hope you do it in the future.

There are many people watching, waiting, praying and will not stand for any more.

You know what is right; you need to read the past & the present information you have in all those files in your offices. You can make The ISTI organization do what it is supposed to do, instead of having a perpetrator on the board of directors, running its everyday affairs.

That is a whole other issue, I cannot even begin to understand or discuss, but I have been to the web site, and it disgusts me.

I guess you will have to do what's right, or do what is expected of you at the Abby, or above all you could do what's in your heart.

It is truly in your hands, that is why this letter has been written.

Sincerely:

OSB ECKROTH_00429

Skudlarek, William

From: Hemmesch, Michael
Sent: Monday, May 06, 2002 10:52 PM
To: Reinhart, Dietrich; Klassen, John
Cc: Culligan, Rob; Milbert, Mary; Kellom, Gar; Hoye, Gregory; McGee, Jon; Sommerer, Shaun; McGraw, Rene
Subject: KSTP-TV Lead Story for Monday, May 6
Importance: High

Please be aware that KSTP-TV, Channel 5 led their 10 p.m. newscast this evening with a story about the Stearns County Sheriffs Department and their ongoing investigation of the Fall 1974 murders of the _____ and the fact that their names appeared on the Abbey's guest list of individuals that went with Fr. Richard Eckroth to the Abbey's cabin. Sheriff Kostreba was interviewed, as well as the sister and parents of the _____.

I have a tape of the story and will forward the transcript of the newscast as soon as I receive it.

Michael Hemmesch
SJU Director of Communication/Sports Information
College of Saint Benedict/Saint John's University
Phone: (320) 363-2595
Fax: (320) 363-3446
mhemmesch@csbsju.edu <<mailto:mhemmesch@csbsju.edu>>
<<http://www.csbsju.edu/news/>>

JBK

From: Klingeman, David
Sent: Tuesday, May 07, 2002 9:13 AM
To: JBK
Subject: RE: another request

**There is an appointment in Jerome's calendar on Monday, July 12, 1982 (9-10 a.m.)
/ Richard"**

-----Original Message-----

From: JBK
Sent: Tuesday, May 07, 2002 8:22 AM
To: Klingeman, David
Subject: another request

Hello David --

Do you have Abbot Jerome Theisen's calendar while he was abbot? Do you have visiting him on 12 July 1982? Just to check up on a statement. Thanks. +John

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 **41°** Cloudy
6:53:11 AM
St. Paul/Minneapolis, MN

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Check the 'Add to 5Cast' box next to the story you want to watch.
When you've selected all the stories you want, click the 'Play My 5Cast' button.



Eyewitness News investigation: Two girls killed 30 years ago spent time in a cabin owned by St. John's Abbey 
Publishing date: 05-07-2002 01:11 AM

"I thought I didn't ever want to reenter this case again," says Rita Reker.

But tonight, this mom and dad are re-entering the murder case of their two daughters.

It's a change of heart prompted by St. John's Abbot who for the first time is allowing law enforcement unlimited access to their priests' personal files.

Stearns County Sheriff Jim Kostreba says, "Right now we're very appreciative of the Abbot's willing to help to do what it takes."

Mary and Susie Reker are among the hundreds of children who went with Father Richard Eckroth in the 1970's to this isolated Northern Minnesota cabin owned by the Abbey.

Eckroth has never admitted any wrongdoing, but Abbot Klassen says he now believes there are credible allegations that Eckroth sexually molested children at the cabin.

An Eyewitness News investigation 18 months ago uncovered a copy of the list of children Eckroth brought to the cabin, including the two dead girls.

Their sister Betsy told us then she was haunted by what she remembers about Father Eckroth.

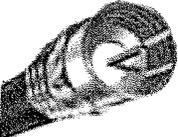
"I wonder about my sister Mary because I know there was some kind of conflict between her and him."

The girls were found stabbed to death in a quarry in the fall of 1974. Police pursued many leads including questioning Eckroth. He passed a polygraph but Sheriff Kostreba says the four investigators he's now assigned to this case will want to interview Eckroth again. Along with many others.

Kostreba says, "There are still other suspects that are not affiliated to St. John's."

Rita and Fred Reker appreciate the Abbot's new openness and they want to encourage parents of all the cabin children to end the decades of silence.

Instant access to **5CAST**


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Fred Reker says, "I am hopeful that others will come forward and speak out about what took place at the cabin. So that the facts will be known."

And any unsolved cases can be aggressively pursued.

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Comments, questions or suggestions? **Contact Us**

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Talked to Father Richard for 1 1/2 hours 5-8-02

Asked him how many traps he made to the cabin (Sawney)
He talked about walking in the woods, seeing an eagle's nest,
kids being excited at eagle feathers.

Sometimes early, sometimes stop; sometimes mixed.

Don't always use the sauna.

Eric, he says, men not naked, had swim suits up there.

Should celebrate them up there

Story - Sistine Chapel - White pictures! -
White pictures!

Seasons - winter, summer, fall

Richard ~~never~~ says he never forced anybody to be good people

(2) _____ with
in the store
in the sound
not in the middle

1st time
all parts

Other people

St. Joe R

2nd time

Abolisher ()
made in the sound
fowel -
trying to take the low

Some of the girls on top of the hill
coming off the hill -
in the water washed

June
1972

Some arguing between L. & Mary - had
not been

Water - cold
dip in the water
soil in the snow

took him & 4 other
boys on a road
trip

picked up ^{51st} boys from

wire &
Celebrate Zachary -- yes.
never more than two night

making on Mt Rainier

Also a group of
boys to Alaska

We cut

soil in the snow

brother & 2 of his sisters —

(2)

one man (13 at that time) & concerned
with them

soon to another ~~mountain~~ beach

could said — willing to go to the
authorities

3

5 Arkansas

Members being in the arena were

was making her back —

power / upper level

boys girls

3 gallon pail — outdoor

frank of clothing — spin the bottle

truth or double snow

body quit — asked him to put it on

do ballroom dance — funny walked —

3

Seemly Nude in Gonna

Plastic bag - ^{R1} only that covering genders
~~bag~~ save Duns there

3 different

my
over sees him

Baron attack

upset - he would have attack
- maybe a fight with another
dog

~~Baron~~ brother who went up -

1805 kids -

50 duns, 50 names, 50 stupid

body time, fun times

Station wagon

captured -

working poor - Chopstick

gold digger

had over

- killed - went out to

June 1994 -

When [6 -> 6.5 years ago

D

4 chicks
+ 300 lbs

3 different occasions

Jeff Davidson

4

Lawyer

no 1 they didn't see anything strange
nothing could go further -

say - committed suicide
lot of mental illness -

D - looking for role models
circumcision of penis - big conversation

Tom

Fran McDonald - At Crossroads -

No evidence to put him as murderer —

I was with cabin only connection
connection with those who did the murders

Sept — laboratory

Albany

Miss Grogg

I repeated in further trial by a priest —

1908 — father day killed

- Frederick McKinley

won't come

75-79 homosexuality
animals
then left

Merwan James — foul language

SL Review —

July 21, 1981 - father died

9-10 kids - same

March 78 - advised to suicide at Dep

511

310 kids -

5 suicides
also drugs

- 1961

James Kelly

Law Enforcement
referred it up?!

Reported
Do not -> reported
wasn't done

County Attorney stopped it

Loam Males at Albany

Does husband know him
-> was he ready to confess?

-> Still alive

Sydney
Charlie Craft

*

- at home

see him

boy that shot himself

the son went to

- Need to Review
- Need to have good factual information on case of human cabin.
When did we change our policies?
- Check with Robert Stein - did ~~any~~ Richard get involved
in the 1976 because you suspected or had
knowledge of abuse in Albany - cabin?
- Need to ~~contact~~ ask Richard directly
What happened at that cabin?
- Need to ~~also~~ have a phone session between
Rene, Dave Kuhn, Bob Stuch to review ~~the~~
the legal complications of what kind of
information we share - in case of lawsuit -

JBK

From:

Sent: Thursday, May 09, 2002 8:04 AM

To: JBK

Subject: info

Abbot John

I received a call from _____, states he was molested by Eckroth before he was ordained. He's not looking for anything, but feels his info may help in determining Eckroth's culpability. I had 2 other calls stating they were at the cabin with Eckroth. There are some things that could be done to assist in determining if the accusations against Eckroth are true. Lie detectors in this case are useless.

The openness and truthfulness you have shown in this situation, is respected and refreshing to the community, members of the clergy, and the students. I have not heard anything to the contrary. You sure took the "sting" out of the adverse stories. Even the media believes in you, they rarely do that.

If I can be of any assistance, let me know.

yours truly

5/9/02

OSB ECKROTH_00441

occurred in 1949-1950
North Pole - summer cabin in
fox house - he was with the Reiger there
felt flash a little
he was like 2 or 3 days -

1941 10, the 7 yrs -

1950 or 1951
↓

front of stage
Both out into

Swimming -

Came out there, sitting on the
May he went swimming - walked down towards
him

pulled me close & him - pulled his face into
nothing point

happened once
but

head, head, head
front, side, didn't see
pulled back, talking
frankly - looked

just a boy
laughed & respect someone in that position
jumped into water.

the water -

2. Mon before returned

& the water

2 or 3 months - Chuski Junction -

"I say (and) by Jimm Fr. Eckroth" "one year later
to my knowledge; don't know when the occurred"

checked with 2 brothers / sister —
— found no record that she mentioned of to be
other...

Question — did Richard ever go up to
Detroit like a season?

Women accuse St. John's Abbey priest of abuse

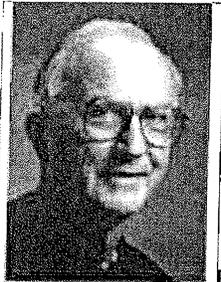
Warren Wolfe, Paul McEnroe and Pam Louwagie

Star Tribune

Published May 9, 2002

They were supposed to be joyous getaways with a priest well known by their families, a man who loved the outdoors and enjoyed taking groups of six or seven children on weekend outings in the 1970s.

But two women say what they experienced at a northern Minnesota cabin were weekends of horror.



Eckroth

St. Cloud Times

"I remember Father Richard got mad about something and we ran over to the neighbors," said . . . 42, of Woodbury. "The woman and her boys wanted us to stay the night there, but we didn't. I was 11. Father Richard raped me that night."

Father Richard is the Rev. Richard Eckroth, 75, a monk at St. John's Abbey in Collegeville, Minn., where he taught philosophy to students at St. John's University, was prefect at a residence hall and served as priest in two nearby parishes before he was transferred in 1977 to the abbey's Bahamas mission.

On Tuesday, . . . received a check for \$10,000 from St. John's Abbot John Klassen, whom she told about her alleged abuse for the first time in January. He sent her \$2,000 in April. The money, he said Wednesday, is to help with counseling and living costs.

An accompanying letter from the abbot said, "I know that this ordeal has been very hard for you and has taken a great deal of courage. I enclose \$10,000 and I am hoping that this will be of help over the short haul."

Klassen said that the payments to . . . were not an admission that Eckroth is culpable, but "an acknowledgment that here is a person in great pain and great need."

Eckroth has denied any involvement with sexual abuse. Through an abbey spokesman, he declined Wednesday to talk with a reporter.

The Star Tribune is identifying the priest, who has not been charged with any crime, because he has been publicly identified by the abbot at St. John's Abbey, where his activities have been restricted since 1993 because

of sex-abuse allegations; he was the focus of sexual-abuse lawsuits, and has been identified by the Stearns County sheriff as a suspect in the 1974 stabbing deaths of _____, 15, and her sister _____ 12, of St. Cloud.

The abbot said he has started investigating allegations of sexual abuse by Eckroth and is considering hiring an outside investigator to assist him.

From 1971 to 1976, Eckroth routinely took small groups of boys and girls -- children of friends who worked as St. John's, or children from nearby parishes -- to a cabin near Bemidji, Minn., for overnight visits, Klassen said.

The cabin on Swenson Lake is owned by St. John's Abbey as a place for vacations and retreats for the monks in the Benedictine monastery.

Twin Cities attorney Jeff Anderson said that he has represented at least six victims of abuse by priests at the abbey. He said that before 1994 he settled "a few in the several-hundred-thousand-dollar range." After 1994, he said he was forced to settle for what he described as small cash settlements around \$25,000 because the statute of limitations had elapsed.

He said three of the smaller settlements were suits against Eckroth. "I'm embarrassed and sad to say I had to settle for that on the victims' behalf," Anderson said.

He said a particularly sad case involved _____ and her family. The statute of limitations had run out on their case and he couldn't help them. "That whole family suffered one horrible tragedy after another," he said.

A victim's story

_____ voice is full of something beyond rage when she goes deep to dredge the memories of what she says was abuse by Eckroth.

"Psychological mutilation. Abuse by religious elders. I've carried these scars for so many years," she said from her home in a small town in northern Idaho, which she asked remain unnamed. _____ now 38, said she was sexually abused at least four times at the cabin between the ages of 7 and 11.

Weeks ago she was invited to fly back to Minnesota by Abbot Klassen to describe what she remembers. With great reservations, she said, she came and, with her father at her side, she told Klassen of a childhood ruined. Whether that talk will lead to a settlement for her and her family, she said she hasn't a clue.

"I know that I want full compensation for my family for what we've all suffered," she said.

She describes what she recalls as if it happened last week:

The fondling in the cabin sauna, then up in the musty loft. The knife at her throat while the priest from St. John's Abbey molested her and told her she would die if she ever talked about what he was doing to her. This from the man who'd taught her father philosophy when he was a student at the St. John's prep school.

She said she was at the cabin at least once with the _____ girls but can't remember them ever saying whether they'd been sexually abused by the priest.

"I can't tell you I witnessed any other children having the kind of contact he [Eckroth] had with me," _____ said.

It wasn't until she was 28 that the secrets she'd carried finally came out and her family learned of her abuse, she said.

Several years earlier, _____ had described the sexual abuse he said he suffered at the hands of Eckroth.

Now it was her.

"It made us scattered to the wind," she said. Those experiences had crippled a family, [redacted] said, because the children subconsciously felt threatened if they talked to authorities, fearing that their father would lose his job as a sales rep and editor at the abbey's Liturgical Press.

"As kids we grew up thinking priests were God, people we were only to respect," she said. "We were only to obey them."

The priest was the only adult at the cabin, a trusted figure.

[redacted] said the strongest threads of memory center on what took place in the sauna and the loft.

"In the sauna, I was laying on the top shelf and he was rubbing my backside with his hands -- of course, he'd instructed us all to be naked, and he penetrated me with his hand," she recalled. "I don't remember leaving the sauna, I don't remember if that was the end of the abuse."

The most horrific of her memories in the cabin, she said, was an attack that took place while playing spin the bottle one evening after dinner.

When [redacted] won, she said the priest took her to a chest full of clothing, men's shirts and T-shirts, and odd garments described to her as costumes. She was supposed to choose the kind of clothes she wanted and then climb up to the loft.

"He brought me to the top of the ladder. I remember specifically his breath on the back of my knees," she said. The smell of leaves outside and old smells inside the loft filled her nose -- "like a place that hadn't been swept out or washed out."

"He stripped me naked with the intention of putting on this costume and while he was doing that he started cussing in my ear. . . . He had a knife to my throat -- silver knife -- I'd never seen it before and never again."

She said she felt that she might die. "What I do remember is him saying, 'I will kill you if you tell anybody.'"

"And then he penetrated me again with his hand."

She didn't tell her parents. But after [redacted] son tried to commit suicide in 1978, allegations that the son had been abused by Eckroth surfaced, [redacted] said. Now 63, he said he immediately took his concerns to social workers and doctors, asking them to tell the Stearns County sheriff. He also said he talked to a retired abbot at the time and several years later went to the sheriff. He said his questions went unanswered.

[redacted] said: "My dad was not clear enough at the time to wheel around on a dime and go, 'Oh, my God, my daughters were up there, too; what happened to my daughters?' That happened years and years later when we came to him."

Later, she told him what she remembered of being abused and he talked with officials then, too, [redacted] said.

"It was always, 'You have our apology . . . profound and sincere and deep' and every other adjective you can put with it," he said.

Meeting with Weaver

Three years ago, [redacted] and [redacted] and several supporters met with Minnesota Public Safety Director Charlie Weaver and state Planning Director Dean Barkley to discuss her allegations and some other cases.

On Wednesday, Weaver recalled the session as a "weird meeting" filled with allegations of corruption and a grand coverup. He said he didn't have a clear recollection of the issues surrounding the St. John's case.

James Kostreba, who is the current Stearns County sheriff, said Wednesday that his office isn't investigating either the _____ or _____ cases.

Klassen said that since he became abbot 17 months ago, he has met with the _____ and with _____ and three or four others who have alleged they were abused by priests from the abbey.

"They have been wrenching experiences, listening to their stories about abuse from men who are my brothers," he said.

Eckroth and 12 other monks accused of sexual abuse live at the abbey under restrictions imposed by previous abbots, limiting where they may go and who they may see. Seven, including former Abbot John Eidenschink -- abbot from 1971 to 1979 -- have admitted abuse, Klassen said. Eckroth and another have not. The other four men were involved with Internet pornography or incidents not involving other people, Klassen said.

Eidenschink transferred Eckroth to the Bahamas in 1977. Klassen said Wednesday that he asked the former abbot whether the transfer had anything to do with allegations of sexual abuse, "and he told me that they didn't, that he didn't know of any allegations at that time." Klassen said he has not asked Eidenschink if anyone ever came to him with allegations against Eckroth.

_____ said she went to Klassen in January after she no longer could work because of the stress.

"I've been in hospitals six or eight times, starting when I was 17 and suicidal," she said. She grew up in St. Joseph, Minn., a few miles from the abbey and was friends with the _____ and other children taken to the cabin by Eckroth.

"I've got a good counselor now. I think I'm getting some help. But I'm in debt and I can't work, not yet," she said. She has been a medical records secretary and a day-care worker.

The \$10,000 will help her with some bills and living costs for a few months: "Maybe by then I'll be able to work again, at least part-time," she said.

Sitting in his kitchen Wednesday, _____ said he and other parents feel guilt for entrusting their children to the priest, sending them on trips alone with him into the woods.

"I'm the father, the protector, the slayer of things under her bed," _____ said as tears fell. "One of us [parents] should have gone along."

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VOGUE
"Hailed 'It's Item'"

ON THE NEW

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INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

Sins of a Father: 'Sauna Kids' Abuse

BY KELLY PATRICIA O'MEARA

A remote retreat in Minnesota allegedly was turned into a sexual playhouse by a Catholic monk who has been accused of repeatedly molesting young boys and girls.

In the summer of 1985 the National Conference of Catholic Bishops held a closed meeting at St. John's Abbey in Collegeville, Minn., a major center of the Order of St. Benedict in the United States, to address the problem of sexual abuse of children by clergy. The bishops were provided with a confidential report — a copy of which *INSIGHT* has obtained — that not only acknowledged a "problem" but laid out plans to cope with it by, among other things, increasing specialized sex-therapy clinics for priests.

It is an ironic twist in view of recent news stories about pedophilia and homosexuality among Catholic clergy that this meeting of American bishops 16 years ago somehow managed to overlook alleged wrongdoing at the very meeting place of the conclave. *INSIGHT* has learned that nearly a dozen of the abbey's Benedictine monks since have been accused of sexually abusing minors or adults in their spiritual care. Of these, at least eight are known to have confessed to such acts.

St. John's is a nationally known center of liturgical revolution, redirecting Catholic liturgy away from worship of a transcendent God to community-centered participation. Thousands of Catholic parishes use its manuals weekly.

An investigation by this magazine suggests that nearly two dozen cases have been settled privately by the Roman Catholic Church there and that, according to victims, parents, lawyers and priests, there are likely to be more cases. These are cases that, as with the scandals in New York and Boston, could

Concrete Icon: St. John's Abbey, where some priests are accused of molesting children.

unfold into a worse nightmare than currently even imagined. Meanwhile, ironically, the document given to the National Conference of Catholic Bishops so many years ago could open the floodgates against the church for its failure to protect children and other sexual innocents entrusted to the care of its clergy by a system that was warned but failed to deal rigorously with the widespread problem of sexual predators.

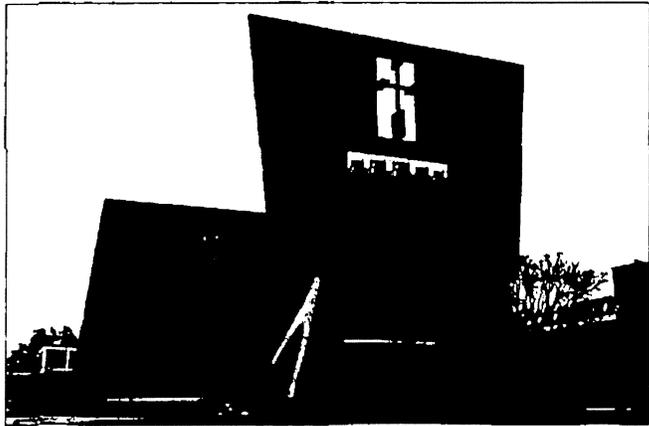
As *INSIGHT* goes to press, the Vatican has responded to a media frenzy by summoning the entire conference of American bishops to Rome for a meeting with Pope John Paul II. But even now little attention is being paid to the victims and the ordeals they have suffered for years. Here, in an exclusive report, *INSIGHT* looks at the personal stories and allegations of sexual exploitation at the hands of just one priest, the Rev. Richard Eckroth, a veteran clergyman accused of

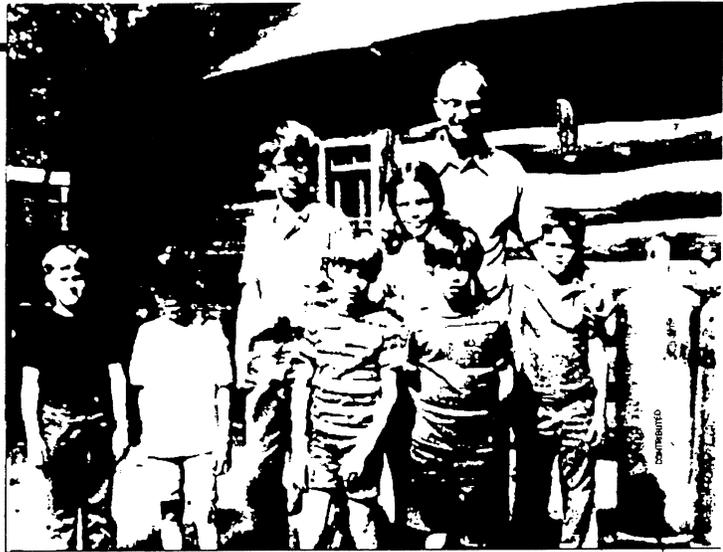
molesting both little boys and young girls over many years.

This is their story — the story of youngsters called the "Sauna Kids." It developed between 1971 and 1976 when "Father Richard" invited scores of children in groups of four to six for weekends at a remote log cabin on Lake Swensen near Bemidji, Minn., owned by St. John's Abbey. These youngsters ranged in age from 7 to 13. They tell *INSIGHT* they saw a happy time turn into the nightmare of a life dealing with painful memories of what occurred at the abbey's cabin where, they claim, they suffered abuse at the hands of their trusted priest. While Father Richard never has admitted in public to any of the allegations of sexual abuse brought against him, *INSIGHT* has obtained confidential medical records maintained by the abbey in which church-run therapy clinic doctors said that he engaged in inappropriate touching of children and encouraged them inappropriately to touch him.

Medical teams reported to the head of the abbey that they could not prove or get the cleric to admit the overt allegations. But they found that details of at least two internally reported incidents of alleged sexual abuse by Father Richard were so strikingly similar that "We believe there is a strong possibility that Father Eckroth has engaged in sexually inappropriate contact with these people." The recommendation was that Father Eckroth have "no unsupervised contact with minors" — even after a stay of several months at one of the half-dozen "sex" clinics run by the Catholic church.

Among victims willing to go on the record about molestation charges against this monk, the alleged modus operandi of Father Richard is remarkably consistent. For example, according to one of the Sauna Kids, much of the discussion





Betrayal of innocence: Between 1971 and 1976, Father Eckroth, above, took scores of kids to a log cabin owned by St. John's Abbey, where he allegedly molested some of them; Anderson, left, says the abbey continues to 'put up barriers' to efforts at legal action.

during the three-hour drive to the log cabin revolved around the priest's explanation about the sauna, a building detached from the main cabin where the clergyman insisted on nudity.

"On the drive to the cabin," explains "Father Richard told us we'd be taking a sauna, and he said it would be fun — the best thing we'd be doing up there — and afterward we'd go swimming in the lake. I was 11 years old and didn't even know what a sauna was, but he told us that we had to be naked in the sauna."

she says, "That bothered my sister and me, and we asked if we could wear our swimsuits. Father Richard told us that we couldn't wear our suits because it gets too hot and the metal clasps on the back of the suits could burn us. He said that he had 'bands' at the

cabin that we could wrap around us. I remember thinking at the time that the only 'band' I knew of was a rubber band and I couldn't imagine how that would cover us. When we got to the cabin it turned out that the 'bands' were strips of cloth that weren't long enough to fit around our chests. I wore my bathing suit but left the clasps unhooked so I wouldn't get burned. I remember swimming in the lake afterward, and one of the other girls was naked and she was diving off of Father Richard's shoulders. I remember feeling ashamed that some of the kids didn't have their clothes on."

According to this victim: "Another time, Father Richard took just us girls down to the beach and he wanted us to cover him up with sand. He had us bury him and form breasts on him, and one of the girls stuck a stick where his penis

would be. I don't remember how this all started, but I remember Father Richard was laughing and encouraging us to do this to him. Again, it made me feel embarrassed, but I didn't tell my mom about these things. I thought I had done something wrong. There was a general sexual atmosphere at the cabin among the kids. It's funny but I don't remember doing anything 'normal' at the cabin. It bothers me that I can't recall what we did. I don't remember fishing or board games, cooking or washing dishes. It just seems that the whole weekend revolved around getting firewood for the sauna and taking a sauna."

She counts herself among the lucky. She has no memory of being assaulted by the priest. Others, however, can't forget the alleged assaults.

Feelings of having done something wrong and hiding the secret appear to be constants in these accounts.

One victim remembers being taken to the cabin between the ages of 7 and 11 and recalls specifics of four instances where Father Richard touched her inappropriately. "One time I was in the sauna where a small group of us were in the sauna and I was lying naked on the top rack of the sauna," she recalls. "There were a couple of other girls who were naked, too, and Father Richard was naked and he was caressing me on the backside and he penetrated me with his



finger. That was the first strong memory that never seems to go away."

continues: "One time, all the kids were in the cabin one night, we were playing spin the bottle and Father [Richard] Eckroth would take the winner of the game and bring us over to an old chest and there was clothing in it, described to us as costume clothing, which weren't really costumes but just old T-shirts and men's shirts, and we got to choose some of the clothes. I chose a T-shirt and I remember he followed me to the loft of the cabin and stood me on a mattress in front of the window and he knelt in front of me and stripped me naked. [Then] he started cussing at me in my ear, calling me horrible names — he said I was a little bitch, a whore, that my daddy wanted him to do this and if I told anyone he would kill me or my mom."

It gets worse. "He also had a knife in this instance. I don't remember returning downstairs to the game. I remember he had a knife to my throat and he penetrated me with his hand. Another instance, we would be in the water and he would be holding me on his hip and he would be penetrating me with his finger and whispering in my ear, threatening me not to say anything. I never told my dad about any of this. None of the kids ever talked about it. I was afraid of what would happen. If I said anything, I don't know what he would have done to me or my family."

According to people who have stepped forward (and others not ready to be identified publicly) Father Richard did this repeatedly. "I was 11 years old," says

"when my sister and I went to the cabin. My dad knew Father Richard because they went to school together, but we had never met him before. There were three or four other kids there, too. I think it was two boys and four girls. Father Richard was in the

same bed with me that night and he raped me. In the morning he made me take a bath. There was a water pump outside and he brought in a couple of inches to fill the tub, and I remember he said 'If you say anything to your parents that will make them mad at me they will go to hell because it's a sin to be mad at a priest.' I never went back to the cabin, and I didn't tell my parents about what happened until 1993."

In February of this year, met with John Klassen, the abbot of St. John's, and told him her story. Klassen wrote a check for \$2,000 to help with mental-health costs, but acknowledged nothing. As with other cases emerging in the news, and with the case, the churchmen dealing with them seem more interested in making them go away as quietly as possible. But sadly, as some victims now recount, the paying of "hush money" without confession and repentance only furthers the psychological abuse of those victimized. Consider that wasn't told what the church knew about two other families whose children also were part of the Sauna Kids circle. Before legal cases went to trial, St. John's made out-of-court settlements stemming from allegations of Father Richard's pedophilia.

"That's normally the way they like to handle it," says a lawyer who has handled such cases on behalf of the church in another jurisdiction. "And, frankly, it tends to be easier for the victims it seems. Is it right? That's not for me to say. But I can tell you these happen more than you know. It's disgusting."

Church leaders still are reticent to talk openly about such cases, but *INSIGHT* sat down with the Rev. Rene McGraw, the liaison on such claims between the Benedictine monastery and lawyers. He acknowledges claims have been made against at least nine monks (including

one abbot) for abuse of minors and involving at least 16 children from the 1940s to the mid-1980s. Eight of the nine monks admitted to the abuse and one reportedly is senile. Father Richard is not considered to be among this group of nine. Despite the settlements, allegations, confessions and therapies, each of these clergy still lives on the St. John's campus.

One of the issues that remains a mystery is whether Father Richard was the only monk to take kids to the cabin. Father McGraw tells *INSIGHT*: "I don't know if others went out there. I don't know how I can find that out. Since then, though, we've put in rules that only monks are allowed to use the cabin. I don't know if anyone knew [Father Richard] was taking children to the cabin. Father Richard would have to sign for use of the cabin, but I don't know that anyone knew who was going with him." But they do now, *INSIGHT* learned.

Asked if the names of confessed pedophile monks had been or will be given to local law enforcement to be added to the statewide list of sexual predators, Father McGraw dodges the question. Instead, he explains the processing of claims: "When an accusation is made, we usually are contacted by lawyers about a claim, and we turn over documents as they are requested. We find out about these things through attorneys."

Father McGraw also sidesteps the issue of why the abbey has not turned the names of the confessed monks over to law enforcement, saying: "All of these cases are public, and you can get the information from the local courthouse. It's public knowledge, and it's been written up in the newspaper." Father McGraw apparently is referring to a separate issue of sexual abuse by the monks

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 32)

May 13, 2002

SINS OF A FATHER

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18)

at the prep school run by St. John's. The accusations from the Sauna Kids have yet to be addressed by the abbey, and few articles have been written about the scandal. This is the first national story.

"All of this is terribly painful for the abbey," Father McGraw says, "as it creates an atmosphere of ill will among the people who feel they've been victimized, and great fear and sadness for the church. Yes, the church is culpable in this, and one of the sad things is that 90 percent of the dioceses tried in the mid-1980s to put policies in place, and many are very sad and angry at those that did not." Apparently he is referring to that confidential policy paper that the National Conference of Catholic Bishops reviewed to try to halt or otherwise deal with homosexual pedophile cases involving abuse of children.

Despite the fact that Father McGraw admits believing that "this is criminal behavior and should be treated as such," St. John's still has not taken steps to report to police or prosecutors the known pedophiles residing at the abbey.

Tb Jeffrey Anderson, a St. Paul, Minn., attorney who recently made national headlines for filing a Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations (RICO) lawsuit on behalf of victims of a Missouri seminary, this is all very familiar stuff — including the specific allegations made against Father Richard and other St. John's clerics. Anderson has represented several of these families in claims. "I have come to believe that what they [St. John's] have gotten away with is outrageous," he tells *INSIGHT*. "I don't believe they are evil men, but I believe they have been doing evil things and they have been convincing the public, the courts, our lawmakers and everyone in Minnesota that they are doing good things and the right things for the right reasons. I'm angry and committed to exposing what they've been doing so we can do something about it."

Anderson adds: "For a long time there has been a cleric culture created there at St. John's of sexual abuse of minors and adults, and it's huge. Every time we try to address it legally, they put up barriers, hiding behind statutes of limitations. They are deceiving everybody that there isn't a problem out there."

By now the St. Paul lawyer seems filled with indignation. "There are dozens of monks," he seethes, "who are involved in this abuse. If a victim comes forward they [the abbey] basically try to keep them in guilt and secrecy, and if these kids have the courage to go to a



lawyer the abbey shuts them down, treats them terribly, victimizes them again. And it's really ugly. I've brought some dozen cases against St. John's and have settled on most of them, but because of the statute of limitations in Minnesota I have not been able to get justice for these kids. I've received about 20 cases in the last 10 years about abuse out at St. John's and because I've not been able to expose any of them in court, the number of victims out there is probably 10 or 20 times higher than that. I've talked to a half-dozen victims involving Eckroth alone, but have never been able to bring a case against him."

For how much are the victims settling? "The average settlement with St. John's is about \$20,000, but that's one one-millionth of what it should have been," Anderson says, finally exploding. "Eckroth is a pedophile! I think he goes for both pre- and postpubescent children — with multiple victims such that I don't even dare to think how many."

Many similar stories of frustrations and settlements, with some on the East Coast reaching the \$200,000 range, have been shared with *INSIGHT*. They have in common that the lawyers involved are almost universally furious at how church officials have bullied and intimidated the victims and their families. "It's really outrageous," says one lawyer. He complains that his hands have been tied because he has done what was in the best interest of his clients, usually religious people who have been betrayed and emotionally shattered by the experience, even when he personally was disgusted and outraged by what had happened and how it was tolerated. "I think they should be in jail," this lawyer tells *INSIGHT*. He says the RICO statute should be used against both perverted clergy and the church itself.

"I filed a RICO lawsuit in Missouri, which pertains to a seminary down there, and in it I claim that every bish-

op in the United States is involved in concealment, obstruction of justice and protection of pedophile priests," Anderson tells *INSIGHT*. "So I assure you that the St. John's kids are on my radar, and if I have an opportunity I will bring a RICO suit there as well, because I think it applies."

The passion comes through loud and clear when Anderson says, "More and more of these people are coming forward every day. I'm sick and I'm angry about what has happened out at St. John's. I feel pain for the people I've tried to help, and every time I've been involved with them on one of these cases, I've never seen [the church] be helpful to these kids. The attitude is that if you come forward we're going to beat you down, wear you out and bury you. It isn't the lawyers' fault, it's the [Benedictine] order's fault because they have control of their lawyers. St. John's is the worst among the orders — the darkest of the dark. Those are unkind words, but I'm angry at how brutal they have been to the people they have harmed. And that's the nicest thing I can say."

Anyone looking into the Sauna Kids' accusations must wonder what the abbey knew of the monk's cabin activities. In 1976, three years before he was transferred to St. Augustine, a sister monastery in the Bahamas, Father Richard inexplicably stopped taking children to the secluded church-owned cabin. The abbey denies any accusations were pending at the time and claims Father Richard's transfer to the resort island was routine.

Father Richard did not respond to *INSIGHT*'s requests for an interview.

[EDITOR'S NOTE: The pictures of the child victims in this story were contributed by their families and used with permission. The parents asked *INSIGHT* not to reveal the children's names.]

KELLY PATRICIA O'MEARA IS AN INVESTIGATIVE REPORTER FOR *INSIGHT*.

Skudlarek, William

From: \\
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2002 9:54 AM
To: Klassen, John
Subject: Message from:



Abbot Klassen May 12
2002.doc

Please take a moment to review the attached letter. I put this together in lieu of a direct conversation with you, respecting your busy schedule. I did, however, receive one message back from your assistant describing your hectic schedule. He explained via voicemail that you would return my call by Saturday, May 11, 2002. Respectfully, I could not wait longer to send you my message.

<<Abbot Klassen May 12 2002.doc>>

This transmission is intended only for the person named above and may contain privileged or confidential information. Please notify me immediately by phone or e-mail, if you have received this transmission in error. If you are not the named addressee, please destroy the original transmission and its contents. Copying, distributing, or any disclosure of its contents is prohibited and may be unlawful. Thank you for your assistance and I apologize for any inconvenience.

May 13, 2002

Abbot John Klassen OSB
Saint Johns Abbey
Collegeville, MN 56321-2015

Most Reverend Abbot:

The purpose of this letter is simply to speak to you from the heart of a young boy, living within the formative years of life, regarding the molestation committed by one of your brothers, Cosmos Dalheimer. I think it is important to share the impact this horrible act has had on my life and the lives of those who mean so much to me, my family. I too, want to share with you the effects of the cries for help and consequences that were brought on by sharing this ugly part of my past with others before you. Needless to say, the following may not be easy to read, much less understand. Finally, I am eager to understand what the Abbey of St. John's can offer to mend a broken heart, mind and soul of an innocent youth who did not have the ability to reason as an adult sometimes can.

I trust that you have the ability to obtain a copy of the records from the lawsuit filed on my behalf against Cosmos Dalheimer. If not, at your request, I would be happy to send you a copy. The deposition that I gave relating to the suit speaks for itself. The facts and memories, as horrible as they are, have and will remain exactly the same. There, you will find my statements and memories of a time in my life that I cannot erase, no matter how hard I have tried. It is the truth. There are facts of cruelty and abuse that took place in my life, which cannot be changed. I beg you to understand that as an 11-12 year old boy that I did not ask for Cosmos Dalheimer to molest me, fondle me, perform sodomy or threaten me and my family with life. Cosmos Dalheimer said that if I told anybody that my dad wouldn't have a job, he would punish me (and my dad wouldn't be happy either) and if I want to be a man of God that this was what happened to everyone. You see, my dad taught me to obey my elders, and NEVER TO TALK BACK TO A PRIEST. Growing up in a Catholic household I was taught that priests were like God. Further, I was taught that they are to be trusted and cannot do wrong, much less commit a sin. I remember getting the belt from my dad when he found out that I ran away from the house (in St. Joseph) when I heard Cosmos Dalheimer whistling his way up the road, up to our driveway. I cannot explain how consumed with fear I was from that man, Cosmos Dalheimer. What ever I was told, I did, without question. Questions were not accepted or tolerated. A kid is to be seen, not heard. A kid is to do what he is told, period. I used to be that kind of kid.

OSB ECKROTH_00450

I too, was once a kid within the St. Joe Parish who served mass on Sundays in addition to funerals and weddings and I served happily. I became a rebellious kid who skipped church, got into arguments often, attended John XXIII middle school and Cathedral High School, only because I was told to do so, but hated every minute of it. Through puberty and teens I found trouble quiet readily, and got caught in wrong doing more and more often. I went through terrible trials in my life, searching for someone/something to believe in because I wanted to, and needed to. I found alcohol, drugs, promiscuity, and a life of misdirection and lies. I too have a very difficult time with personal relationships. My ex-wife will attest to that, I am sure. Are these my sins? Yes, they are and I admit them and continue to ask for God's will to be done within my life because when I take control I just seem to screw it up. None of these things that I found gave me the answers as to where I could fit in and where I would find peace from the demons that were in me. Do you know that I still find myself telling a tale that I learned as a child? That tale is that when a person feels bad or has an ailment that it is the devil coming out of them. How twisted is that? Or is it?

To add insult to injury, coming from the Catholic Church – St. Joseph- were more messages that I was not accepted. How? I could not get married there because my first wife was pregnant with my son prior to our marriage. We were told that premarital sex was not tolerated within the church, at least in St. Joseph. When my son was born, I was told by the priest (1991) serving Richmond, MN, that I could not sign the baptism papers because I could not prove that I was the father of my son. Mind you that the state of MN was willing to accept my signature as proof. Is my word and good intention not enough proof of fatherhood to my only son? I guess that the Catholic Church is above the law, in that regard anyway. Oh, by the way, my son's mother, myself and our families were not aware of this Catholic Church law until the priest at Richmond, MN explained this at the altar during my son's baptism. I never did get an explanation from that priest as to what proof he and the Catholic church required, he simply refused my role as father to my child within the eyes of the Catholic church. Please, check out the records. Our families will attest to this. Furthermore, after my divorce, because I would not agree to have my marriage annulled by the Catholic Church, my ex-wife and son have migrated to the Luthern Church. I would not agree to say that our relationship in marriage never happened, after all, that would be saying that my son was not born out of the love that we shared. That simply was not true. By annulling the marriage it would mean that it never happened in the eyes of the church, and God. My son and my marriage were founded with the love of God and I will not deny that for any reason. I am now 34, a Christian man, remarried and a proud father of one son. I also carry a heavy load that I just cannot shake. Do you know what that may be?

I have read articles posted in the St. Cloud Times, Star Tribune and also listened to documentaries on local television that explain your involvement in the Abbey and some recently publicized accusations against St. John's clergy. As the Abbot, the highest - ranking member of your monastic community, I would imagine that you too took an oath to provide sound leadership to your brothers at St. John's. I do not envy the position that you assumed in November of 2000, as you have much work to do. I read some supposed quotes that really disturbed me. One such quote was in an article printed in the St. Cloud

Times on April 20, 2002 where you were quoted. **"Victims have been and will continue to be compensated in a commitment by the abbey to work like the devil in the community to understand what it is that allowed this to happen in the first place."** I was instantly offended by your choice of words in addition to the statement itself. Don't you think that it is the devil himself who made this all possible? It isn't just "something" that allowed this to happen, it is someone (over and over again). In my opinion, you don't have to look too far for the answers. There are people who lurch within this world who feel the divine right is theirs to ruin the lives of innocent victims. I know I am not alone as a victim of sexual abuse by a Catholic priest who is harbored at St. John's, nor am I alone in just that thought. You do remember that two of my brothers were also sexually abused/molested by one of your brothers. We have recently heard about many others, children from my community as a child growing up in the St. Joseph, MN area who came forth with similar life experiences. How sad is that?

Within that same article the reporter quotes you saying, "there seems to be compelling evidence here that Dalheimer did abuse the boys, although Dalheimer denies the allegations." You better believe that Dalheimer sexually abused me, and now I pray for that man often. I ask why nothing has or is being done about this? The state of Minnesota will not look at my case because of the statute of limitations, (three years is it?) but if you believe that there is compelling evidence and that the truth was told, why then is the Abbey continuing to harbor and protect a criminal? How is that? Why should a man of your brotherhood stand above others? He has yet to admit any wrong doing, I understand, but what about the truth? What is just here? Am I to believe that because St. John's has Cosmos Dalheimer on restrictions that he cannot harm me? I will tell you that Cosmos Dalheimer commits the same act over and over each and every day. How do I know this? Because it happens to me just that often, whether he is at St. John's "safe haven" or not. You see, victims are victims until justice is served.

I also recall reading that you are entertaining compensating someone in Idaho, who came to you with a similar experience, only with a different priest. Is it true that you are asking this person to put forward a formal request for assistance? Let me explain the experience that I had when I was told to formalize my requests to St. John's through the wonderful, highly recognized, worldly, experienced and dedicated council, that of the one and only Jeff Anderson. I was directed to take a deposition that was very difficult to do, as I was not eager to tell anyone of such a disgusting and horrible experience in my life. I did just that, I told the ugly truth about all of it. I bared my soul. It was rewarding for just one moment. Until the time that I was told to accept whatever St. John's had to offer because, you see, the statute of limitations had run out which, I was told, meant that I had no leverage in a court of law. In addition, I was told that Mr. Anderson had a much more high profile, pressing case out east that he must attend to and focus his time towards. That is why his, "associates", took over the case and recommend that we settle this one. Sound familiar? Looking back on this all, I would NEVER have gone through the humiliation had I known that the outcome was more victimization, only this time it included St. John's then current leadership & council, my own professional council. This really flies in the face of the term settlement, doesn't it?

How much more to this life experience has affected me, you ask? If someone said one day to you, Abbot Klassen, put a value on your life, what would that be? I had that question asked of me by St. John's once before, back in the early 1990's, prior to the "settlement". I was shocked and mortified at the price that your organization put on my life – that price ended up being the amount that we supposedly settled on, or as I was told, "take it or leave it". I know what I received and you do too, \$11,000. I guess that the powers to be even thought that Mr. Anderson's brilliant "work" that took mere hours was worth more than my entire life as he received more than what I did. I assure you, I was not in the position to barter, nor defend myself back then. I also recognized back then as I do today that it is not for me to decide what my life is worth. I do believe it is others around me who truly know me and love me along with almighty God who will get to decide the value of my life. I will tell you now that I am not and will not ever again be inclined to respond to such a question as that. Do you have any idea what my life is worth?

I tell you what, back in the early 1990's I came forth in good faith to tell the truth about what happened to me at the hands of Cosmos Dalheimer. That was called an accusation. I call it fact. You have called it compelling evidence. When I came forward I did not exactly know what outcome to expect, but I never imagined that I would be mocked and belittled as has happened. Today, this time, as I come forward to you, willing to share the disgusting facts about this horrible experience, I do come with one expectation. I expect that you and St. John's Abbey have a clear idea of what your comfort level and abilities are in response to my case. Please respect the fact that I do not have the ability to make that determination. If you want to compensate me for the actions of Cosmos Dalheimer molesting me as a boy, this time it is up to you and St. John's to tell me what my life is worth. That is, if you disagree with what St. John's decided I was worth back in 1995. I will not tolerate further abuse by your brothers or your organization. I find it ugly and disgusting to ask a victim of such hideous crimes to request or beg for assistance from St. John's for the crimes committed by your brothers. Shame on your leaders to make such a demand!

One last thought comes from a photograph that I found in an album that my mother gave me from my childhood. I recently was paging through it and it brought up some encouraging thoughts, directly from God. It was a photo of a shrine in Iowa at the "Grotto". It was Christ's sermon on the mount. I read the words that Christ spoke that day and part of that really jumped out at me. "Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after justice for they shall have their fill. Blessed are the merciful for they shall obtain mercy." Please, Abbot Klassen, help me better understand this.

I will pray for you and your fellowship as you work through these delicate and difficult situations. I ask God to put mercy and justice on your hearts. I lift up to God the many requests for justice of those who commit devious sexual acts, harming our youth and sending those same people into a misdirected future. I pray that God use you Abbot Klassen as a beacon for others to follow as an example. May he provide you wisdom, guidance and peace as you move through your life's journey. I pray for other victims of sexual abuse, that their hearts do not become hard. I pray that they may find peace in

you, God and that you embrace them with your pure love and kindness. I pray for my family, that we unite as a strong symbol of faith in you God also that my mom, dad, brothers and sisters will one day rest in heaven with you at their side. I pray for my wife and son Lord, that they will find peace in you and comfort in your word. I pray that I may be a good leader and provider for my own family. I pray for patience. I pray for wisdom. I ask this in Jesus name.

Finally, I want you to know that I share this with you based on the recommendation and suggestion of my brothers and father, which you have previously spoken to each of them. By my family, you are held in high regard and are said to be very credible and passionate. I do not know you myself, but I do trust you indeed are the man that they describe. I did attempt to reach you several times over the telephone. I did receive one message back on Friday, May 10, 2002 from your assistant. He said that you were very busy and had a very hectic schedule, but that you would get back to me by Saturday. That is why I am writing you today. I have this weighing on my heart so heavy and I wanted to send you my message. I too would appreciate it if you would take a few moments to speak with me. Also, I do not feel that it is fair to bring up details of my brothers, but this message should be clear. We stand together, united as one family.

Personal and Confidential

May 14, 2002

Detective Pam Jensen
Stearns County Sheriff's Department
P.O. Box 217
Saint Cloud, MN 56302

Detective Jensen:

Enclosed find the names we shared with the Stearns County Sheriff's department with their middle names.

Also I include photocopies of materials from our archives from the summer and fall of 1989. They establish that Father Richard was at Saint John's Abbey in the summer of 1989, getting a hip replacement. In September he returned to Nassau and we include a letter that he wrote from Nassau in the middle of October.

Sincerely,

Abbot John Klassen, OSB

OSB ECKROTH_00455

Bennett, John Edward
Brother Andre

Dahlheimer, Raymond Jerome
Father Cosmas

Eckroth, William Anthony
Father Richard

Eidenschink, Albert Joseph
Father John

Gillespie, William Raymond
Father Thomas

Hoefgen, Francis Frederick
Father Francis

Kelly, John Dennis
Brother John

Maiers, Charles Joseph
Father Brennan

McDonald, Robert Anthony
Father Finian

Moorse, Robert H. (for Harry)
Father Dunstan

Tarlton, Allen Paul
Father Allen

Personal and Confidential

Restricted Monks – Employment History

~~Focus on presence on Labor Day, 1974 and October 22, 1989~~

Edwards
Br. Andre (John) Bennett (26 February 1930)

ASSIGNMENTS

Infirmarian	
St. John's Abbey	1958 – 1993
Clerical services	
St. John's Health Center	1993 - present

ferome
Fr. Cosmas (Raymond) Dahlheimer (20 November 1908)

Associate Pastor St. Augustine's Parish St. Cloud, Minnesota	1969 – 1973
Associate Pastor St. Bernard's Parish St. Paul, Minnesota	1973 – 1978
Associate Pastor St. Joseph Parish St. Joseph, Minnesota	1978 – 1980
Chaplain St. Scholastica Convent St. Cloud, Minnesota	1980 – 1988
Retired St. John's Abbey	1988 (December 12) - present

Anthony
Fr. Richard (William) Eckroth (21 June 1926)

Assignments

Chaplain St. Benedict's Monastery St. Joseph, Minnesota	1967-1973
Chaplain St. Benedict's High School St. Joseph, Minnesota	1970
Instructor St. Benedict's High School St. Joseph, Minnesota	1967-1970
Associate Pastor St. Augustine's Parish St. Cloud, Minnesota	1973-1974
Associate Pastor Seven Dolors Albany, Minnesota	1974-1976
Associate Pastor Holy Family Church Nassau, Bahamas Islands	1977-1978
Pastor/Roofer of churches/Painter of churches St. Robert's, St. Gertrude's, Sacred Heart Church South Andros, Bahamas Islands	1978-1986
Pastor/all around contractor St. Benedict's, St. Boniface's, Holy Angel's Church Mangrove Cay Bahamas Islands	1978-1986
Construction Supervisor Holy Name Parish Bimini, Bahamas	1987-1989
Monastic Member St. Augustine's Monastery Nassau, Bahamas	1989-1991

Fr. John (Albert) Eidenschink (9 August 1914)

Abbot of Saint John's Abbey	1971-1979
Pastor Seven Dolores Parish Albany, Minnesota	1979 – 1986
President American Cassinese Congregation	1983 – 1989
Associate Pastor Seven Dolores Parish Albany, Minnesota	1986 – 1987
Chaplain Mother of Mercy Nursing Home Albany, Minnesota	1987 – 1998
Retirement St. John's Abbey	August, 1998

Fr. Thomas (William) Gillespie (24 July 1937)

Missionary/Teacher
San Antonio Abad
Humacao, Puerto Rico 1968 – 1975

Associate Pastor
St. Boniface Parish
Cold Spring, Minnesota 1975 – 1976

Associate Pastor
St. Bernard's Parish
St. Paul, Minnesota 1976 – 1978

Pastor
St. Mary's Church
Stillwater, Minnesota 1978 – 1986

Pastor
St. Joseph Parish
St. Joseph, Minnesota 1986 – 1996

Fr. Francis Hoefgen (29 August 1950)

Transitional Deacon
St. Boniface Parish
Hastings, Minnesota 1978 - 1979

Associate Pastor
St. Boniface Church
Cold Spring, Minnesota 1979 - 1984

Associate Pastor
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
Hastings, Minnesota 1984 - 1992

Br. John Kelly (28 October 1950)

ASSIGNMENTS

Director of Guidance
St. John's Prep School 1975 – 1980

Director of Administrative Services
St. John's Prep School 1980 – 1990

Fr. Brennan (Charles) Maiers (27 April 1936)

Assignments

Pastor
St. Benedict's Parish
Bronx, New York 1970 – 1976

Pastor
St. Boniface Parish
Cold Spring, Minnesota 1976 – 1983

Pastor
St. Bernard's Parish
St. Paul, Minnesota 1983 – 1990 (October – August)

Fr. Finian (Robert) McDonald (23 December 1928)

ASSIGNMENTS

Counseling Center Staff St. John's University	1968 – 1980
Director of Counseling St. John's University	1980 – 1982
Faculty Resident (2 nd Patrick) St. John's University	1980 – 1982
Sabbatical Year Japan and Israel	1982 – 1983
Director of Academic Advising St. John's University	1983 – 1988
Missionary/Monk St. Anselm's Priory Tokyo, Japan	1988 – 1992

Fr. Dunstan (Robert) Moorse (8 December 1950)

ASSIGNMENTS

Transitional Deacon
St. Bartholomew's Parish
Wayzata, Minnesota Fall 1977

Associate Pastor
St. Bernard's Parish
St. Paul, Minnesota 1978 – 1979

Instructor in History and Theology/Prefect
St. John's Prep School 1979 – 1986

Instructor in Theology and History
Benilde – St. Margaret High School
St. Louis Park, Minnesota 1987 – 1989

Symposium Instructor
St. John's University 1989-1990

Fr. Allen Tarlton (4 December 1927)

ASSIGNMENTS

English Teacher
St. John's Prep School

1973 – 1991

Drama Director
St. John's Prep School

1973 – 1991

Skudlarek, William

From:

Sent: Tuesday, May 14, 2002 9:52 AM

To: Klassen, John

Subject: about richard eckroth

I would just like to tell you that I was one of the many kids Fr.Eckroth took up to St. Johns cabin back in the early 70s.

I was one of the lucky kids that was never approached by him. All I can do is tell you some of the weird things we did. Of course there was the Sauna that everyone is talking about. I remember one time we were all supposed to look for pine branches so we could slap ourselves in the sauna. He told us it was to get our blood circulating. I remember him telling us we were to run down to the lake after we were in the sauna and jump in the lake, now remember we were only about 8 to 10 years old naked and scared. One time he wanted all of us to take a sauna together. boys and girls. My girlfriend didn't have a swimsuit to put on so he told her to put on a pair of shorts, and he took a dish towel and wrapped it around her breasts. I also remember him asking her to sit on his lap while we were in the sauna. She did.

Its been so many years ago. My parents are angry at him to think they trusted this man to take up there children to this cabin. There were 3 brothers a sister and myself that were up there at different times. I Thank God that this man never touched us. At least we don't remember. I just wanted to let you know about this information.

thank you if you would like to email me my address is

5/14/02

OSB ECKROTH_00468

Utt John, you will likely find this article information and possibly useful in Fr. Richard's case.

Date: Tue, 14 May 2002 06:58:11 -0500

From:

Subject: Test

To:

X-Mailer: Juno 5.0.33

X-OriginalArrivalTime: 15 May 2002 18:51:31.0523 (UTC) FILETIME=[873F4930:01C1FC41]

Mr. [unclear] the [unclear] doctor in Bismarck, ND

I was concerned by some of certain clinical terms in the ST. Cloud Times Article. However, I found this article somewhat helpful.

Bottom line:

Whatever the intent of the clinicians involved, the Penile Plethysmograph test is not reliable in any case, whether it is used to assert guilt, or to assert innocence.

Pete

The Penile Plethysmograph in False Allegation Cases Cowling Investigations, Inc.

One of the most controversial subjects imaginable is the penile plethysmograph and its use, especially in preparing a defense for anyone falsely accused of sexual abuse. Although we do not use the test in our defense preparation, we do use other testing. All testing of this nature is admitted depending on the laws governing the state where you reside. It is an absolute disgrace when anyone who has been falsely accused has to "prove" their innocence, but in most cases, they are required to do just that. These tests, administered and used properly, can greatly assist in that area.

The penile plethysmograph is a machine that measures changes in the circumference of the penis. A stretchable band with mercury in it is fitted around the subject's penis. The band is connected to a machine with a video screen and data recorder. Any changes in penis size, even those not felt by the subject, are recorded while the subject views sexually suggestive or pornographic pictures, slides, or movies, or listens to audio tapes with descriptions of such things as children being molested. Computer software is used to develop graphs showing "the degree of arousal to each stimulus."

The plethysmograph directly measures the outside evidence of sexual arousal. When a man becomes sexually aroused, there is engorgement of the penis. When the penis becomes engorged, you are measuring sexual arousal, so for all practical purposes, the test is a blood pressure measurement.

The tests has been used to weed out false gays, in the treatment of sex-offenders, in sentencing decisions for sex offenders, as a condition of parole for certain sex offenders and in some child custody cases to determine if a father is or is not likely to abuse his child. Some psychologists use the PPG to measure the success of the therapy.

Some studies done on the PPG, however, have found that many so called normal men, who
Printed for

5/15/02

by e-mail address

have not committed illegal sex acts, show considerable arousal to stimuli depicting naked children or children involved in sexual activity. In one court case, Dr. Michael Tyson, a clinical and forensic psychologist specializing in the field of sexual criminal behavior, testified that "the vast majority of individuals who commit sexual offenses against children are not sexually aroused by stimulus material involving children." His expert adversary in that case, Dr. Gullick, claimed that "the plethysmograph has been extensively studied and recently shown to be ninety-five percent accurate in discriminating between individuals who had committed sexual offenses against children and a control group that was randomly drawn from the population." Other experts have claimed that there are "studies in which the devices have failed to detect nearly one out of three known sex offenders tested."

The reliability of the device have been argued in court and penile plethysmographic evidence has been declared inadmissible because of its "questionable reliability." The case in which Dr. Tyson testified was heard by the North Carolina Court of Appeals. That Appeals Court upheld a lower court's exclusion of testimony by Dr. Gullick because her testimony was based upon the use of the penile plethysmograph. The defendant in the case was accused of sexually molesting his 5-year old stepdaughter. He called Dr. Gullick to testify that his "arousal pattern" when tested on the plethysmograph indicated that he was not aroused by children. Presumably, the defense believed that this was strong evidence that he didn't molest the child. The trial court ruled that "Dr. Gullick would be permitted to testify as to any opinions which were not based on the plethysmograph." The Appeals Court agreed with the trial court that "the instrument was of questionable reliability; that the testimony was not relevant; and that even if relevant, its probative value was outweighed by its prejudicial effect."

There is a substantial difference of opinion within the scientific community regarding the plethysmograph's reliability to measure sexual deviancy. See e.g., Barker and Howell, *The Plethysmograph: A Review of Recent Literature*, 20 *Bull. Am. Acad. of Psychiatry and Law* 13 (1992) (identifying several problems with the reliability of the plethysmograph, namely "lack of standards for training and interpretation of data, lack of norms and standardization and susceptibility of the data to false negatives and false positives," and concluding that "despite the sophistication of the current equipment technology, a question remains whether the information emitted is a valid and reliable means of assessing sexual preference").

Most courts applying the Daubert analysis have excluded evidence of penile plethysmography based upon its scientific unreliability. In *United States v. Powers*, 59 F.3d 1460 (4th Cir. 1995), the court excluded the penile plethysmograph test because it failed to qualify under Daubert's scientific validity prong. The evidence produced at trial clearly showed that these factors weighed against the admission of the penile plethysmograph test results. First, the Government proffered evidence that the scientific literature addressing penile plethysmography does not regard the test as a valid diagnostic tool because, although useful for treatment of sex offenders, it has no accepted standards in the scientific community. Second, the Government also introduced evidence before the judge that a vast majority of incest offenders who do not admit their guilt show a normal reaction to the test. The Government argues that such false negatives render the test unreliable. The Powers court noted the fact that it was unable to locate any decisions acknowledging the validity of penile plethysmography other than in the treatment and monitoring of sex offenders. See also, *Garren v. State*, 1996 WL 37987, 220 Ga. App 66, 467 S.E.2d 365 (1996)(sustaining trial court's refusal to admit evidence of test).

Most, if not all, of the courts that have reached the issue of the admissibility of penile

plethysmography tests have excluded evidence of the tests. See e.g., See, e.g. R.D. v. State, 706 So. 2d 770(Ala. Crim. App. 1997); Nelson v. Jones, 781 P.2d 964 (Alaska 1989) cert. denied, 498 U.S. 810 (1990)(judge sitting as fact finder in family relations matter rightfully gave no weight to penile plethysmograph evidence as unreliable); People v. Stoll, 49 Cal. 3d 1136, 265 Cal. Rptr. 111, 783 P.2d 698, 713 n. 21 (1989) (dicta); People v. John W., 185 Cal. App. 3d 801, 229 Cal. Rptr. 783, 785 (1st DCA 1986) (defendant failed to establish that the plethysmograph "was a reliable means of diagnosing sexual deviance" and ruled the test inadmissible). See also In re Mark C. v. San Diego County Dept. of Social Services v. David C., 7 Cal. App. 4th 433, 445, 8 Cal. Rptr. 2d 856 (1992)(penile plethysmography and other test battery excluded); Gentry v. State, 213 Ga. App. 24, 443 S.E.2d 667 (1994); Stowers v. State, 215 Ga. App. 338, 449 S.E.2d 690 (1994); Dutchess Cty. Dept. of Social Services v. Mr. G., 141 Misc.2d 641, 534 N.Y.S.2d 64, 71 (1988) ("the results of the plethysmograph as a predictor of human behavior cannot be considered"); Cooke v. Naylor, 573 A.2d 376 (Me. 1990); State v. Ambrosia, 67 Ohio App. 3d 552, 587 N.E.2d 892, 899 (1990)(penile plethysmography unreliable in classifying pedophilia); In the Interest of A.V., 849 S.W.2d 393 (Tex. Ct. App. 1993) (proponent of test failed to establish its reliability).

Penile plethysmography cannot meet Daubert's validity or relevance tests because the test results are not generally accepted, are not sufficiently accurate, the test is subject to faking and voluntary control by test subjects, there is no standardized set of stimuli or scoring used by plethysmography experts and the results are not relevant to the question of whether the Defendant is a child molester.

No test can determine whether a person will act on his feelings and desires. Anyone planning on taking the test should be aware that studies have shown:

- Plethysmograph data is totally useless for determining guilt or innocence regarding deviant sexual acts. It would be like using a personality test to convict someone of burglary.
- Plethysmographic data have no diagnostic value of any kind.
- About one-third of offenders show no arousal in the lab.
- The proper stimuli to use are not pictures, but taped fantasies. Ideally taped fantasies spoken by the offender themselves, describing the offenders' own fantasies as well as contrived ones.
- The value in plethysmographic assessment is to aid the offender in learning how to control erection responses during deviant fantasy. That is it. It has no value in "seeing if the treatment worked." Treatment should not be court-ordered.

While this discussion has been about the plethysmograph, one needs to understand that it is not the only means with which sexual preference is measured. Another means is the Abel Screen, a test designed by Gene Abel, M.D., to produce the same results, but without the use of nudity or pornography. In most cases, when one talks to individuals who use the plethysmograph, many are quick to "trash" the Abel Screen, however, the fact is, both work. This argument is akin to a polygraph examiner "trashing" a "voice stress" test. Both work, but the polygraph was here first, so, according to the polygraph examiner, it must be the best.

The Abel Screen has passed all Daubert Standards in western Louisiana and in State Courts in Texas. It is widely used around the country, however, the same arguments that apply to the plethysmograph would apply to the Abel Screen. Both are used and both are widely accepted in the overall scientific community as valid testing for "treatment" but not for "identifying" a sexual offender. That is the catch, especially when attempting to admit the "testing" as a defense to a false allegation cases. There is, however, a method that I have found to be successful in my cases. Normally, a plethysmograph or Abel Screen alone are simply tests and, I know those tests will probably not pass the Daubert Standards. I have found a great deal of success in having my clients complete a two-day battery of tests, conducted by Dr. Abel personally. This battery consists of psychological testing, the Abel Screen, a polygraph, a drug screen and in-depth interviews by Dr. Abel. This is far more than a simple Abel Screen and, as a result, we have had absolutely no problem in having Dr. Abel personally admitted as a defense expert. I would expect the same would be true with the plethysmograph, as long as it was not the primary reason for admitting the expert.

5-15-02

(1)

Meeting with Fr Richard 3:15-4:00

I mentioned the June 18 meeting with Sam Nelson and Ken McDonald on 9:00 a.m. Thursday, May 16. Told him I thought it was going to focus on the

Also asked Richard - did you touch girls / boys - he indicated yes but not rubbing - indicated the gentle chop / chop motion. Some liked it - some didn't.

Asked Richard - ~~did~~ did you ever touch boys penises or girls vaginas - He said absolutely not -

Told the story of being with boys / girls together, with swim suits on, girls getting sexual and screaming; boys taking their swim suits off but coming back, and catching them naked. R. scolded her & told her to go to the cabin. She brought a lantern along, thinking they needed more light - but she may have walked away feeling pretty shaken about being scolded.

- only distinctive thing about it was coming across the cleaning of the paintings in the Sister's chapel and pointing it out to R. - "Dirty pictures, dirty pictures!" R. tried to explain that the erosion of Adam/Eve by the serpent was the work of a brilliant artist & the superintention of humanity at its highest. But would not be considered - did follow

- Richard's persona is that of a smiling man at least (2)
- I cannot help but wonder if he has dissociated completely from Schwan that was inappropriate.
 - I asked him if when this was ongoing, if he ever had a moment's doubt that somehow what he was doing might be misconstrued. He replied that he always had permission of the parents. He talked further about Fr. O'Shea, a pastor who was a great mentor to him & took a group of boys to the paddocks at Mandan. Their kind of exposure was obviously what F.R. had in mind as he took the many kids up to Ellucabin.

Mentioned the eagles ^{nest} & feather & kids delight at finding a feather. Mentioned the two porcupines up a tree & climbing kids not to get in their way - maybe a young one in the distance.

I asked him if he was ever aware that the kids call with him were afraid of what was happening - he said no - His only vision is that the kids were having a great time - This fits into a strand of someone who is not a quick stud at understanding children's feelings. He was worry a great deal if that may have meant they were too?

I asked him if he was ever aware that what was happening up at Emerson was pretty strange? - No

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1977-1983

Proclerishop ~~hawaii~~ ~~hawaii~~
Miss. Clinton Cross

Freedom of Information against Richard Eckroth
Any allegations
Any other person

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