

Most Rev. Raymond Goedert  
Assignments

1952 – Ordained

1952-54 – Associate Pastor, St. Gabriel Parish

1954-56 – Pursuit of Licentiate in Canon Law, Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome

1956-76 – Marriage Tribunal, Archdiocese of Chicago

1974-75 – President, Presbyteral Council, Archdiocese of Chicago

1976-87 – Pastor, St. Barnabus Parish

1987-91 – Vicar for Priests, Archdiocese of Chicago

1991 – Ordained a bishop; Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago

1991 – Episcopal Vicar, Vicariate I, Archdiocese of Chicago

1995-96 – Vicar General, Archdiocese of Chicago

1996-97 – Administrator, Archdiocese of Chicago

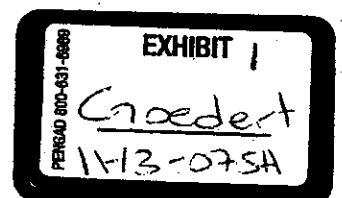
1997-2003 – Vicar General, Archdiocese of Chicago

2003- present - Retired

2004 – Vicar General, Archdiocese of Chicago (temporary assignment)

2007 – present - Administrator, St. Gabriel Parish

452571



October 23, 1986

Dear Cardinal Bernardin:

In these past months when I have been on sick leave, I have seriously considered many physical and emotional health issues. I am now aware that my health demands changes in my work. I do not believe that it is in my best interests to continue as Officialis of the Archdiocese of Chicago.

I am aware that my term of office comes to an end on December 31, 1986. I ask that I not be reappointed to another term.


I am also aware that the Tribunal has been functioning smoothly in my absence. I believe that it would not be in the best interests of the Tribunal, nor of my own health, if I were to attempt to resume the duties of Officialis for the few short weeks remaining in my term. I ask, therefore, that you accept my resignation from the office of Officialis, effective immediately.

I want to thank you for your constant care and concern for me, and to assure you that I stand ready to serve the Archdiocese in any way I can.

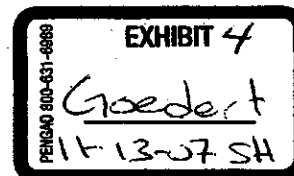
Sincerely yours in Christ,

*Robert C. Becker*

Rev. Robert C. Becker



Joseph Cardinal Bernardin  
Archbishop of Chicago  
P.O. Box 1979  
Chicago, IL 60690



Ex. 4

CB1 00154

This is a conversation between Father Ray Gredert  
[redacted] when he called her on [redacted]  
Tuesday November 11, 1986 at approximately 11:15 a.m.

Fr. introduced himself at the new Vicar of Priests for the diocese of Chicago, having taken over for Fr. Ventura. I asked, "Fr. Ventura's not Vicar any more?" He said I sounded surprised. I said I was - I hadn't heard there was a change and asked what happened. He explained that a Vicar's appointment lasts four years; Fr. Ventura's term was up last year and he (Fr. Gredert) was then appointed. Fr. Ventura has been on sabbatical in the Holy Land since and is expected to return next week. I told him I had respect for Fr. Ventura - that he knew how to get things done in that position, and get it done pastorally.

Gredert said that the Archdiocese had received a call from James Serritella - The reason was that Judge O'Brien had called Serritella as an ethical courtesy to ratify opposing counsel that he (the judge) and I had ordered transcripts of the settlement hearing in the Mayer case. The judge relayed to Serritella upon questioning that he had spoken with me and it seemed I was not satisfied with the settlement and that I

was concerned that the Archdiocese had not and was not living up to its settlement agreement. Gredert said he met with Ferritella yesterday and also with the Cardinal in separate meetings.

I told Gredert that indeed we were never satisfied with the agreement because it had not included any indication that Mayer would receive professional counseling or therapy nor be restricted from contact with young people which were our primary concerns. No one in the Archdiocese would commit that on paper and we never knew what - if anything was being done about his problem. Everyone from Vels to Krating to the Cardinal told us "trust us" and to just "forgive, forget and go on with your lives". So, I said, there really wasn't much to live up to in the agreement - we got a check for half the attorney's fees and the Cardinal saw us for an hour - simple! The obligations were complete. I told Gredert what I am concerned about, always have been and always will be, is the possibility that Mayer could further harm young people because, as far as I could see from other instances I'd known about at St. Stephen's Mayer remains unrestricted. I said I had

visited or called Fr. Ventura a couple times after the case was settled to report what I was hearing. It was no skin off our nose if the Archdiocese chose to do nothing - our kids were out of it - but I made a promise to the judge, the Cardinal and myself that if this man ever hurt another child, I would be there for that family with our records in hand to support that family. And, I said, I would have to bring my records because the records at Sally Center are pretty sparse.

I told Gredert that, for various reasons, I had gone into the Sally Center records and found that many people have been through the file in past years - most recently, an attorney for the Des Plaines Police Department which alarmed me because Mayer's in Des Plaines.

Yes, Gredert said, he'd already spoken with the Chief of Police there to find out what that was about. The Chief told Gredert that was prompted by an anonymous call he had received regarding Mayer. The police tried to look into it, but it was anonymous, so it was difficult to investigate or track.

Other calls that came into the station were only rumors and hearsay, mostly based on his past. Goedert said he asked Mayer if he was "doing it" and Mayer said no.

Goedert said he told Mayer that he would unfortunately have to live with rumor for the rest of his life because of the case publicity. I commented on 3 things here:

- 1) "Rumor" - with this man, Mayer, and his kinds of problems the Archdiocese couldn't afford not to investigate any and all rumors. Archdiocesan officials said our incident was rumor, hearsay, irrelevant, couldn't be proven...
- 2) Mayer's denial - he denied our boys' incident too
- 3) Mayer's "unfortunate" circumstance of having to "live with it" - so do we all, including our boys for whom the Archdiocese did nothing, not even ask how they are.

Well, you've accomplished quite a bit, Goedert said. Because of you the Archdiocese is treating these cases differently. I've had

to deal with some. The system has changed, he said. Now, the first thing we do is call the family and inquire about the boy, try to get them into counseling. Gredert says he has a case right now where they've offered counseling to the boy.

As a matter of fact, Gredert explained, <sup>psych</sup> priests and bishops are meeting in Oakbrook this week to discuss the problem. He said it's like alcoholism 10 years ago - then there was a stigma and nobody wanted to talk about it. This problem always existed, but now it is trying to be understood and taken care of. I said it was nice they were meeting, but one element was still missing - families' input of what happens in these instances.

Gredert said he had met with Sirritella and the Cardinal to try and find out what he could reveal to me. He said he couldn't tell me results, but that Mayer's been under psychological counseling and is currently undergoing a battery of psychological testing. The Archdiocese is waiting for the psych's recommendations. He said Mayer is under mandate of the Archdiocese, which means that he is not allowed to have unsupervised

contact with minor children. But, Audert said, there's little they can do if children choose to follow him. He said Meyer has a sort of charisma with young people - they follow him and admire him. There's one young man who is a priest today because of Fr. The. He has nothing but the deepest admiration for him.

I said that, of course, children follow him, his "Charisma" comes from supplying young people with alcohol and letting them, giving permission for them, to do what their parents don't allow them to do. I said I knew of a specific case at St Stephen's where his "initiation process" was put into play with one young boy (8th grade) and the family chose to make out of the parish as a result. I had reported this to Fr. Ventura.

I told Fr. <sup>that</sup> that I thought it was nice that Meyer was getting counseling, but this man has major problems which need long-term, in-depth, clinical help. He should not have been put back in a parish, in the same environment - and only miles away where he is accessible to the help of his previous parishes. His "Counseling" sessions



more as ludicrous as lecturing an alcoholic and sitting him back up at a bar and saying "now, don't drink any more." It doesn't work.

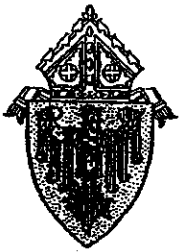
Gudut assured me that the pastor is trained in psychology, is aware of Mayer's problems and is observing him. I said I understood that the pastor is ill and resides four floors away from Mayer.

He spoke some more in general about psychophilia. He said I could be a help to him in this new position of his — and he believed a parent's point of view would be good to have. He set a meeting date for Sat 1:30 at [redacted]'s.

11/15/86

[redacted] invitation to dinner  
Talk about where to meet

Record breakfast  
mtg w/ [redacted]



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

645 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, SUITE 543

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

Off: (312) 642-1837

Fax: (312) 642-4933

7/94

KENNETH RUGE, CLASS OF 1963, ABOUT 57 YRS OLD  
Mother and Father dead. Sister died in '82. No other family  
except his brother-in-law.

Served at St. Rosalie (63-67), Holy Redeemer (67-74), Divine  
Infant (74-79), St. Leonard (79-85), Divine Savior (85-91).

Served as an associate pastor until withdrawal in Oct. of  
1991. he has been  
working for Catholic Charities in an administrative-  
maintenance role with no access to minors.

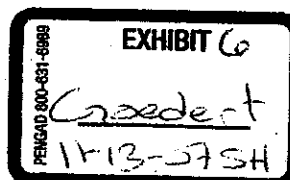
Presently he is under protocols for free time, housing and  
working situations. No return to ministry is foreseen in the  
future.

Chronology of his situation:

. 11/11/86 - Fr. Jakubowski recd. call from of  
St. Leonard's in Berwyn, reporting abuse of her son,  
16, claims one-time abuse on 10/12/85. Indicates there may be  
more. Ruge was stationed at Divine Savior in Norridge. This  
will be the latest date for abuse. Later accusations took  
place earlier in time than 1985.

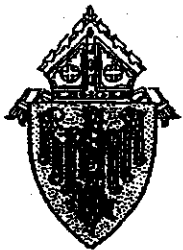
. 11/15/86 - and son see Fr. Ventura, the Vicar, with  
details of the event. Ruge was drinking heavily at this time.

. 11/17/86 - Ruge was dealt with by Vicar.  
Spiritual work. Placed under mandate of not being  
with minors. No cottage trips. Regular monitoring by VP.



Ex 6

CB(RU)00005



# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

645 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, SUITE 543

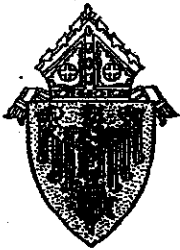
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

Off: (312) 642-1837

Fax: (312) 642-4933

- . 1/14/87 - spiritual evaluation
- . 4/3/87 - call from [redacted] re: other boys saying they had been up to cottage. Ruge denies he was there with them; says he allows families to use cottage when he is not there. No reason to doubt it.
- . 1/1/91 - call from Fr. Henkel of Divine Infant, one-time assignment of Ruge, telling of a woman whose two sons say they know others abused by Ruge and Fr. Becker (who has since died). Woman wished to remain anonymous. Young men never came forward.
- . 6/4/91 - question from Personnel Board about Ruge being nominated for pastor arose. Vicar (Goedert) puts it on hold. Goedert asks for further
- . 9/19/91 - [redacted] seeks and gets help for her son,
- . 10/94 - Commission reviews Ruge case.
- . 11/4/91 - Cardinal informs Ruge of his immediate removal upon Commission recommendation. Ruge goes to monitored living situation.
- . 11/15/91 - meeting with Divine Savior leadership to explain removal and prepare for public announcement.
- . Pastors of all parishes where Ruge was assigned meet and are told to be especially alert to people who come forward with questions and possible allegations.
- . 11/20/91 - Vicar (POM) speaks to [redacted] who is relieved at Ruge's removal.
- . 11/22/91 - call of inquiry from a woman named " [redacted] " who wondered if her son, now 27, had been abused by Ruge. I advised her to call her son and tell him news of Ruge removal and watch his reaction.
- . 11/22/91 - woman with young children calls, praising Ruge.

CB(RU)00006



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

645 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, SUITE 543

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

Off: (312) 642-1837  
Fax: (312) 642-4933

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

ALL THE ABOVE MATERIALS WERE GIVEN TO THE STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE IN JUNE OF 1992.

. 2/92.

. 3/27/92 - another young man comes forward - ( ) - same type of complaints - fondling, wanting to sleep in nude at Woodhaven, nestling up close while in bed - happened 6 or seven times.

. 5/92 - Young man (22) comes forward with more allegations vs. Ruge - when boy was 12-13.

. 10/28/92 - Another young man (23) admits abuse when he was 9-10.

. 2/19/93 - Family in [REDACTED] (the ones FRBD is now dealing with) brought forward their allegations.

Victims: (total confidentiality at his request),  
, and now

CB(RU)00007

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Jimmy M. Lago  
Chancellor



Post Office Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979

September 30, 2004

Ms. Jessica Arbour  
332 Minnesota St., #E1000 First National  
St. Paul MN 55101

RE: Rev. Joseph L. Fitzharris

Dear Ms. Arbour:

We have received your request for information regarding Joseph L. Fitzharris. The records of the Archdiocese of Chicago reflect that Joseph L. Fitzharris was ordained a priest of the Archdiocese on April 28, 1962.

In March 1987 Joseph L. Fitzharris was convicted of the offense of criminal sexual abuse in the Circuit Court of Cook County and was sentenced to supervision. The Archbishop placed Joseph L. Fitzharris under restrictions with monitoring.

In October 1991 Joseph L. Fitzharris was withdrawn from ministry. In January 1995 Joseph L. Fitzharris resigned from priestly ministry.

Please understand, a determination that there is reasonable cause to suspect that a priest has engaged in sexual misconduct with a minor does not mean that the allegation has been proved. It means the allegation has been determined to have sufficient reliability to warrant further action by the Archdiocese.

If you have additional information regarding this individual you wish to bring to our attention, please contact Ms. Leah McCluskey of the Office of Professional Responsibility at (312) 751-5205.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jimmy M. Lago".

Jimmy M. Lago  
Chancellor





# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

Vicar for Priests  
800 North Clark Street, Suite 311  
Chicago, Illinois 60611  
Off: (312) 642-1837  
Res: (312) 528-0540

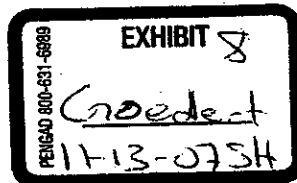
TO: File

FROM: T. Ventura TV

RE: Rev. Robert Mayer

CONFIDENTIAL

6-09-87



- 5-11-87 Call from Fr. John Smyth stating that Police Chief of Des Plaines informed him that they were concerned that Fr. Mayer may be serving liquor to minors. The police are investigating this and are concerned about other inappropriate activities. They may go to the State Attorney about this.
- 5-12-87 Call to Chief Joseph Kozenczak (391-5450) who said a Tribune reporter informed the Des Plaines police about an anonymous call he received from a 15 year old boy who said he was invited by another 15 year old to a party given by Fr. Mayer at which liquor was served to minors and Fr. M. engaged in oral sex with him. The police conducted surveillance on the rectory for the past 3 weeks and have identified 3 teens who frequent the rectory. They also have been in contact with an adult who has expressed concern about Fr. Mayer's activities. At this point, there is no formal complaint.
- 5-12-87 Call to Fr. Mayer at his family cottage (587-0215) to inform him of the accusations. He denied any wrongdoing. He said that no persons under 17 are allowed in his room, that no liquor is served to minors and there is absolutely no inappropriate activity. He said that a group of four teens, age 17 or older, visit him regularly after school. They are: [REDACTED]. They can confirm what he says. Fr. Mayer was informed that since these are serious and sensitive charges, he is to leave the rectory and take a leave of absence from his duties until they can be investigated. He agreed and left the rectory the next day (ie., May 13). He can be reached at his family cottage.
- 5-12-87 Conversation with Fr. Mazydio, pastor. [REDACTED] He said that four boys around age 17 or 18 visit Fr. Mayer regularly, but never anyone younger than that. Sometimes they are noisy and get into roughousing, but there is no indication of anything inappropriate. Liquor is served only when other adults are present. He has never seen it served to minors. Sometimes they watch movies on a VCR but there are no indications that they are inappropriate films.
- 5-12-87 Conversation with [REDACTED] She feels there is no substance to the allegations since she is present in the rectory a great deal and would know what goes on. The only regular younger visitors to Fr. Mayer are 2 Mundelein seminarians who are 20 or 21 and 3 or 4 high school seniors around 17 or 18. She said that Fr. Mayer has made a tremendous contribution to the vitality of the parish and to transfer him because of rumors or unsubstantiated charges would be unfair to the people

Ex 8

CB3/MAY 00739

as well as to Fr. Mayer. She said that he is not perfect, that he can be arrogant and is sometimes his own worst enemy with his comments to people, but that there is no basis for accusations that he serves liquor or engages in sexual activities. She said there are people who spread rumors about everyone in the parish and in the town. She reiterated her belief that after a long period of unrest and instability in the parish, Mayer has brought strong leadership and should remain unless there is clear evidence to substantiate the charges.

5-13-87



5-17-87

Call from Fr. Bob Banzin, a close friend of Fr. Mayer. He said Fr. Mayer is very depressed by these accusations. He said Mayer is a "character" but he is hard-working and effective. He has often been present when young people are visiting Mayer, and has never seen any sign of alcohol, sex or anything amiss. He said Mayer just enjoys "sitting around and blabbing." He hopes the matter can be resolved quickly. If there is evidence, deal with it. If not, Mayer should be cleared and reinstated. He is concerned about the anonymity of the charges and the third or fourth hand reporting.

5-20-87

Visit to Chief Kozenczak by Fathers Kealy and Ventura at the Des Plaines Police Station, 1420 Miner St., Des Plaines. We stated that our inquiries had surfaced no information to support the charges and asked if he could provide more data. He said that a) they had conducted surveillance for 3 weeks from suppertime to 9:00 or 10:00 PM on Tuesdays near the Rectory. They observed 3 youths around 17 years of age who visited regularly. At one time a youth was observed through the window drinking from a green bottle which the observing officers said might have been beer. Also in the course of the investigation they came in contact with an adult, a reliable person, who expressed concern about Fr. Mayer. They had promised to keep this person's identity confidential. The Chief said that youth officers hoped to develop rapport with the teens and learn more about it. When asked about [redacted] or Fr. Mezydlo, the Chief said that neither had been involved in this case. When asked about the original contact, the Chief said it was Pat Curry of Channel 5 News who contacted an officer on his staff about a month ago.

5-22-87

Call from [redacted] who had heard that Fr. Mayer was in trouble. He has known Mayer for 10 years. Back at [redacted] he used to hang around the rectory. He said Mayer was an excellent influence on him and many others. In fact, he was a big reason for [redacted] entering the Seminary. He said Mayer was controversial and has an impatient temperament, but he never witnessed any illegal or immoral or harmful behavior. He said he would send a letter to express all of this on paper.

5-22-87

Meeting with Fr. Mezydlo. He said the matter of a 15 year old's involvement with Mayer is a mystery to him. The only persons that young who were around



the rectory in recent months were two eighth graders watering the plants as part of a Confirmation project. He said Mayer is brilliant, and a superb speaker and organizer. He can be abrasive and sometimes seeks to "grab power" in the parish, but when the pastor addresses this he will back off. Bob gets depressed once in a while, especially when these accusations surface. The most recent tension between himself and Mayer concerned the Finance Committee, but that seems to be resolved. The parish will survive if Mayer leaves, but some people will be upset and disappointed.

5-24-87 Conversation with Cardinal Bernardin who was in Rome the past week. There are two values: first, investigate these charges thoroughly since this is a serious matter. The television reporter seems to be the key person since he is the only link with the anonymous accuser. Second, we must be fair to Fr. Mayer especially if these prove to be ungrounded charges. However, if he remains at the parish there should be a professional evaluation and strong supervision to be doubly sure nothing is amiss.

5-26-87 Call from [redacted] from [redacted] who heard from a friend that Fr. Mayer was in trouble. She knew him since she was 13 and worked as a [redacted]. He never did anything dishonorable, but served as a male role model for many youngsters whose fathers traveled a lot due to business. She feels that Mayer's style of ministry was to challenge the affluence and status quo of a wealthy community. This ruffled some feathers, but helped many people. This may be a context in which people may want to cause him trouble. She will write a letter expressing her observations.

5-29-87 After a number of attempts to contact Pat Curry at Channel 5, I reached him at [redacted]. He said he received an anonymous call from a teen boy who said Fr. Mayer of Des Plaines showed porno movies to teen boys on a regular basis in his home. The caller was concerned about a friend, another teen, who attended these. He wasn't sure whether there was any sexual activity or not. Mr. Curry said they get anonymous calls all the time. People don't realize that the media won't make a story out of such information unless it is substantiated and newsworthy. Just in case there was something to it, however, he phoned a Des Plaines detective who said he would look into it and, if anything checked out, would call him back. He never did so. Mr. Curry said that if he learns anything more he will contact me.

5-29-87 Meeting with [redacted] born [redacted] and [redacted] born [redacted] and [redacted] were unable to be present as planned. When informed of the accusations, they said they were ridiculous and "garbage." They said Fr. Mayer has had a very important positive influence on their lives, that they have never experienced any bad behavior on his part and that, if the accusations had not caused so much trouble for Fr. Mayer, they would be a joke. They said the only criticisms they hear about Fr. Mayer is that he is "too modern" and "too direct."

6-2-87 Meeting with Fr. Bob Mayer, Fr. Len Mezydlo, Fr. Ray Goedert, and Fr. Ventura to discuss the conclusion of the investigation and the plan for the future which involves a) continuance of his present assignment to

its conclusion next June b) complete psychological evaluation by Dr. Cavanaugh c) mandate to avoid all unsupervised contact with people under 21 d) supervision by pastor and Vicar for Priests. A copy of the summary is included.

addendum: 6-30-87 after repeated efforts over the past 2 weeks I contacted Chief Koyuncuoglu to inform him that I had completed my inquiry & reported to my superiors & the decision was to allow Fr. Mayer to complete his last year of this assignment & transfer him in June. We are also taking other measures to address the concerns raised. He thanked me for keeping him informed.



# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

June 19, 1987

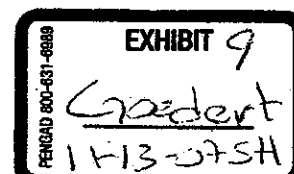
*Vicar for Priests*  
800 North Clark Street, Suite 311  
Chicago, Illinois 60611  
Off: (312) 642-1837  
Res: (312) 528-0540

TO: Ray Goedert  
FROM: Tom Ventura *TV*  
RE: Ken Ruge (progress report)

[REDACTED]

3. Ken seems happy with his current assignment at Divine Savior and has focused on work with Senior Citizens and adults through the Christ Renews His Parish program. His only contact with youth is in supervised situations such as a recent outing for Servers to Holiday Park near Fox Lake where 3 teachers and 4 parents served as supervisors.

4. Please contact Ken at [REDACTED] (rectory) to arrange a supervisory meeting in a month or so.



CB(RU)00087



# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

June 2, 1987

Vicar for Priests  
800 North Clark Street, Suite 311  
Chicago, Illinois 60611  
Off: (312) 642-1837  
Res: (312) 528-0540

TO: file  
FROM: Tom Ventura  
RE: Rev. Robert Mayer

On May 11, 1987 Police Chief Joseph Kozenczak of Des Plaines informed me that he had received anonymous information through a media reporter raising concerns about the activities of Rev. Robert Mayer, especially regarding teenagers. Having investigated the matter, I discovered no facts to corroborate these concerns. However, the fact of the concerns indicates need for special supervision of Father Mayer. Therefore, the following plan is to be implemented as of this date.

[REDACTED] A report and recommendations will be communicated to the Vicar for Priests.

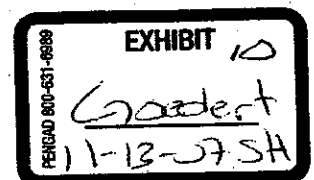
2. A canonical mandate is given to Fr. Mayer to avoid all unsupervised contact with all persons under the age of 21. This applies especially to his private living quarters in the rectory. He is not to have persons under age 21 as guests at his cottage unless other adults are present.
3. He is to continue his present assignment at St. Stephen Parish, Des Plaines for the completion of his five year term of office if these conditions are observed. However, there is no possibility of extending the assignment beyond that time. In other words, Fr. Mayer is to pursue a new assignment through the regular Personnel Board process during the Spring of 1988.
4. Supervision: His local on-site supervisor will be his current pastor, Rev. Leonard Mezydlo, who is to make a monthly progress report in writing to the Vicar for Priests. In addition, Father Mayer will meet monthly with the Vicar for Priests.
5. The following persons were present when the above points were communicated and discussed:

*Thomas Ventura*

*Robert Mayer*

*Raymond Gaudert*

*Leonard P. Mezydlo*



CB3/MAY 00704

Ex 10



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

MAR 23 1988

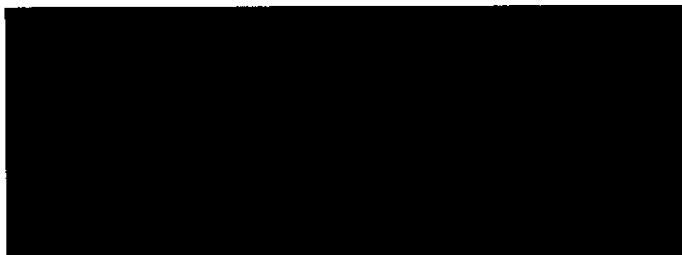
Vicar for Priests  
800 North Clark Street, Suite 311  
Chicago, Illinois 60611  
Off: (312) 642-1837

March 21, 1988

Rev. Robert Mayer  
St. Stephen Rectory  
1267 Everett Street  
Des Plaines, Illinois 60018

Dear Bob,

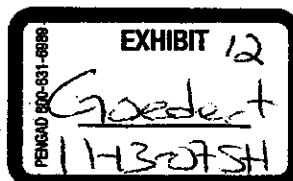
This will simply be a confirmation in writing of the things we discussed at the Retreat House on March 2:



at

2. You agreed to continue to abide by the mandate to avoid all unsupervised contact with minors under the age of 18. This applies to your private quarters at the rectory, your cottage, or wherever. Again, the purpose of this is not our concern that something inappropriate might happen, but rather for your own protection lest any occasion be given to persons who may want to hurt you by bringing up again the charges from the past.

3. With regard to your future assignment, you accepted the limitation of the Review Team to the effect that there should be both "physical, as well as psychological distance" from your last three parishes. And the reason for this is the same as above -- namely, to minimize the risk of unfriendly people reactivating the same old charges. In our discussion, you did state a preference for a parish north of Madison Street and I relayed that request to the Personnel Board.



CB3/MAY 00614

EX 12

Thanks again, Bob, for your cooperation. I know this has been a very painful period in your life. Let's hope it's all behind you now. Good luck in your pursuit of your next assignment. And if I can be of any help, don't hesitate to call.

With best wishes, I remain

Fraternallly yours,

  
Rev. Raymond Goedert



# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

TO: File

DATE: March 2, 1988

RE: Robert Mayer

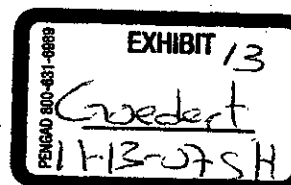
Vicar for Priests  
800 North Clark Street, Suite 311  
Chicago, Illinois 60611  
Off: (312) 642-1837

1. I met with Bob today at the retreat house. [REDACTED]

2. With regard to his next assignment, I explained that I would like it to be a place that would be both physically and psychologically distant from the three parishes where difficulties have arisen. Bob is kind of sensitive about saying that there have been problems at St. Stephen's, as he really thinks that things have gone very well there. The only problem was the anonymous phone calls to the TV station and Bob honestly thinks that that was perpetrated by the group at St. Edna's. Bob wants a place that really wants him and where he can work. He would like to stay north of Madison, if possible, as all of his support group, family, etc. are north rather than south. Ken Velo is Bob's contact man on the Personnel Board. I will have to check with the Board to see if St. Stephen's is on Open Listing. Bob said that the staff is very supportive of him, including the pastor. While he thinks Lenny has problems of his own, nevertheless, Lenny has been supportive of him. Bob feels that St. Stephen's is a very workable place. The [REDACTED] is very good. [REDACTED]

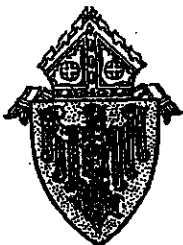
[REDACTED] She was formerly [REDACTED]. I am free to consult with any of them.

3. I talked to Bob about the mandate not to have youngsters under 18 in the rectory, cottage, or anywhere else without another adult being present. This is no problem for Bob. He has made up his mind long ago not to have anything to do with that age group. I told him the reason for the mandate was simply that we want to eliminate as much as possible anything which could lead people to complain about Bob. Since this has been the source of complaint in the past, even though there seems to be no truth to the charges of pedophilia, for Bob's own sake, the mandate remains. Bob accepted this.



CB3/MAY 00970

EX 131



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

645 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, SUITE 543

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

Off: (312) 642-1837

Fax: (312) 642-4933

4/22/96

REV. JAMES HAGAN, ORDAINED 1974, ABOUT 47 YEARS OF AGE

PASTOR OF ST. DENIS FROM 1988 TO PRESENT.

ST. GERTRUDE (NORTH SIDE) FROM 86-88,

ST. RICHARDS FROM 81-86,

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENNA FROM 74-81,

ST. JUSTIN MARTYR AS DEACON BEFORE ORDINATION.

. 5/9/88 - named pastor of St. Denis.

. 5/13/88 - [REDACTED] social worker reports that:

- Fr. Hagan's sex instruction to jr. high people are far too explicit. Some parents were upset.

- Social worker reports that her daughter said Hagan sat young boys and girls on his lap during confession.

. 5/14/88 - Full inquiry followed. DCFS notified. States Attorney office informed. The girl said, in an interview with Fr. Goedert, that she had not been on his lap. She knew he sometimes had little children on his lap during the Children's Mass. That was all.

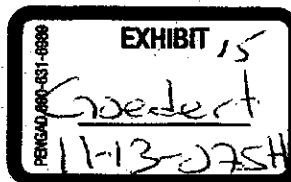
In face-to-face confessions with children, Hagan would reach out as they sat before him, hold their hands, and sometimes the back of his hands would be on their knees. This was his only contact.

. 5/26/88 - States Attorney meets with Hagan and finds no cause.

. 5/31/88 - States Attorney signs off on case.

. 6/6/88 - DCFS is said to have reported "unfounded".

. 12/91 - Cardinal's Commission reviews particulars of this case and agreed with the way the case was handled and felt there was no need for further action. Hagan was notified.



HAG-CB3-00526





# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

TO: File

DATE: May 20, 1988

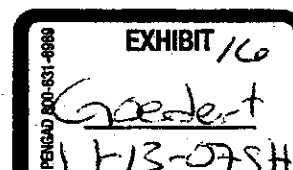
RE: [REDACTED]

Vicar for Priests  
800 North Clark Street, Suite 311  
Chicago, Illinois 60611  
Off: (312) 642-1837

1. [REDACTED]

2. [REDACTED]

3. In the course of her comments, she mentioned that some of the parents are disturbed now about the associate pastor who is accused of fondeling the children. [REDACTED] said she didn't know anything about that and she dropped the subject immediately. Nor did she refer to it any more in our conversation. Her real complaint seems to be against [REDACTED]



HAG-CB3-00550



# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

TO: File

DATE: May 4, 1988

RE: Bob Mayer

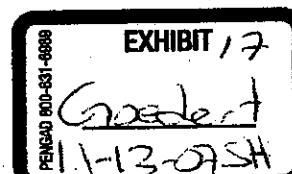
Vicar for Priests  
800 North Clark Street, Suite 311  
Chicago, Illinois 60611  
Off: (312) 642-1837

Art Krueger approached me today at the Presbyteral meeting. He wanted to know what I thought about Bob Mayer. Apparently the Personnel Board had suggested Bob Mayer as an associate to Art and Ken Velo told him to get in touch with me. I filled in Art as best I could.

Subsequent to my meeting with Art, Bishop Jakubowski approached me.

[REDACTED]

I also suggested that maybe Bob Mayer would be better at St. Pascal's than St. Bartholomew's in view of [REDACTED] condition and the fact that Bob is highly organized, etc. And that was one of the parishes that Bob was going to put on his list. I told Bishop Jakubowski that the Personnel Board had already been looking at St. Bartholomew's for Bob, but if he thought he ought to push Bob's appointment to St. Pascal's, I would talk to the Board about it.



CB3/MAY 00974



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

800 NORTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 311  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610

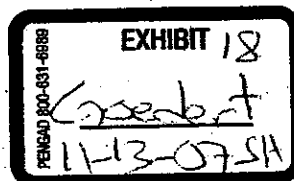
Off: (312) 642-1837

TO: File [REDACTED]  
DATE: Nov. 11, 1988  
RE: Robert Mayer

1. The committee was informed by Ray Goedert that Bob Mayer is going to go to St. Dionysius in Cicero as an administrator. This has positive and negative points. The positive is that Bob will be given another chance to prove himself. Also, it will give us another year or so to sit out the possible threat of the book or TV movie coming out. The negative side is that Dionysius is the place where the lay person got in trouble with pedophilia and there is a criminal case pending against that person. Thus far, there are no law suits against the Church. However, if people who want to do harm to Bob decide to spread gossip out in Cicero, it could become a can of worms inasmuch as the people would be saying first they put up with this lay person who was quite active in the parish, and now they send us a pedophile pastor.

2. It was agreed that Bob Mayer should be notified of the situation of this lay person in case he is not aware of it. It would probably be better if [REDACTED] would fill him in on this, as [REDACTED] is Bob's contact man and made the arrangements with him to go to St. Dionysius.

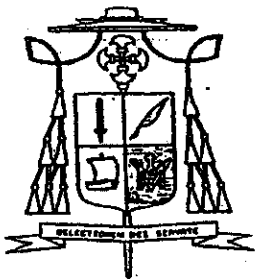
3. It was also suggested that Ray Goedert discuss Bob Mayer with the current DRE, who used to be the principal. The school is now closed and at the time of this lay person's arrest, the principal was by far the best person on the scene. The pastor felt overwhelmed by the whole situation. Because the former principal is now the DRE, I should fill her in on Bob's situation.



CB3/MAY 01018

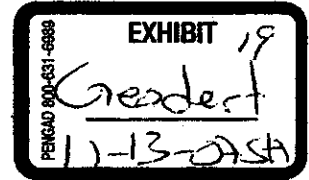
Ex 18

COPY



## Archdiocese of Chicago

4646 North Austin Avenue - Chicago, Illinois 60630



Office of the Auxiliary Bishop

June 19, 1990

Clergy Personnel Board  
25 West Chicago Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois 60625

Dear Members of the Clergy Personnel Board:

I am writing on behalf of Reverend Robert Mayer. I spoke with him this morning and, at my suggestion, he is applying for the pastorate of St. Odilo Parish. As Vicar of St. Odilo, I wholeheartedly support this appointment of Father Mayer. He is most qualified to fulfill this role.

(St. Stephens)

Father Mayer was asked to go to St. Mary's in Des Plaines and there he did a most noble job. He was responsible for upgrading many of the ministries in the parish. He was also responsible for the "new look" in the rectory and church.

When St. Dionysius Parish was at the lowest ebb of Christianity, Reverend Ray Goedert, Reverend Andrew McDonough, the dean, Reverend Daniel Coughlin and I met to consider candidates for the new administrator. We agreed that Father Mayer would be the ideal priest to bring St. Dionysius to the level of where we thought a parish should be. In a very short time, Father Mayer organized the parish with a Finance Committee, a Parish Council and all the ministries that a Parish should have. We set up a program where the parish could survive paying all its debt. He brought about a vibrant and viable parish.

Unfortunately, according to the Cicero Parish Planning Program, it was decided to close St. Dionysius Parish. Father Mayer cooperated with the closing of St. Dionysius. He prepared and convinced the parishioners that for the good of the Archdiocese and for the strength of the Catholic Church, it was imperative that St. Dionysius close and become amalgamated with the stronger Churches in Cicero.

Up to this time, we have been asking Father Mayer to help us out of certain predicaments. Now Father Mayer is asking us to do something for him, namely, to be named pastor of St. Odilo Parish.

EX 19

CB3/MAY 00716

There may have been stories spoken about Father Mayer. Nonetheless, I am willing to take responsibility and accountability as Vicar over St. Odilo Parish. I believe Father Mayer is an excellent and appropriate candidate for this particular parish and I earnestly support him.

It would be entirely just to Father Mayer and most providential to the parishioners of St. Odilo who need his leadership for Father Mayer to be appointed pastor of this parish.

Sincerely,

+ "Jake"

Most Reverend Thad Jakubowski

TJJ/kg



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

800 NORTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 311

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610

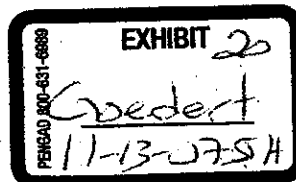
Off: (312) 642-1837

TO: File (R. Goedert)

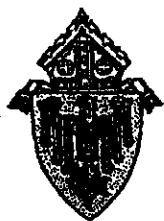
DATE: Dec. 3, 1988

RE: Robert Mayer

1. I called [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. She was the former principal at St. Dionysius during the time when the lay volunteer was arrested.
2. [REDACTED] said that Fr. Mayer arrived Dec. 1 and is staying temporarily at St. Mary of Chestowich. Fr. Kozién hasn't moved out yet. He did not begin to pack until Fr. Mayer arrived. Fr. Mayer intends to turn the convent into a parish center and eventually the Sisters will go to live in the present rectory.
3. I explained to [REDACTED] the nature of my call. I wanted to put her at ease in the event she should hear anything at all about Bob in connection with children, etc. She was grateful for the call. I assured her that if she were to hear anything at all that she wanted to check with me about she should feel free to call.



CB3/MAY 01021



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

Office of the Archbishop

July 8, 1988

Dear Norb,

In light of the recommendation of the Sabbatical Board, I am pleased to grant your request for a sabbatical beginning September 1, 1988 through February 1, 1989. Please inform Father Ken Velo of your address during this time.

The appointment is made with the understanding that you will return to your position at Our Lady of the Ridge upon your return.

Following archdiocesan and Sabbatical Board policy, the parish will pay your salary for the period of the 5-month sabbatical. The Center for Development in Ministry will pay tuition, room and board expenses.

May I take this opportunity to thank you for your fine work at Our Lady of the Ridge as well as for your twenty-four years of service to the Archdiocese.

As you look forward to this important transition in your priesthood, please know that you have my support and prayers. Please pray for me as well.

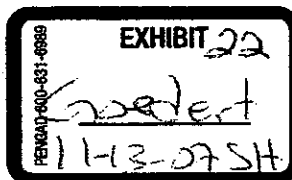
With cordial good wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Archbishop of Chicago

Rev. Norbert Maday <sup>964</sup>  
Our Lady of the Ridge <sup>3490</sup>  
10811 S. Ridgeland  
Chicago Ridge, IL 60415

cc: Rev. Kenneth Velo  
Rev. Wayne F. Prist  
Clergy Personnel Board  
Rev. Thomas Sloan



CB7/MAD 00026

EX 02



Off: (312) 642-1837

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

800 NORTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 311

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610

TO: File ( [REDACTED] )

DATE: March 30, 1989

RE: Vincent McCaffrey

4. According to [REDACTED], the caller did not identify himself by name but stated that he was a Chicago policeman. He said that he was on patrol and he and his partner came across two 12 year old boys who flagged them down. The boys claimed that the man in the car a half a block away or so had offered them \$20 if they would get into the car and have sex actions with him. The cops pursued the car and they asked the driver what he was doing in the area. The driver said he was asking the boys for directions to a grocery store in the area. When the police returned to the two kids, they were too frightened to pursue the issue. The policeman talked it over with his partner and decided to make the phone call. According to [REDACTED], the policeman did not sound vindictive. He sounded sincere. [REDACTED] believed him.

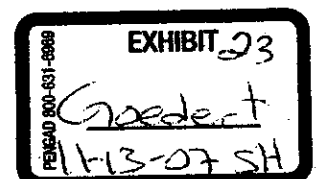


Exhibit 2  
McCaffrey 541



9. The caller said he was a Chicago policeman working the wagon. That's the word he used, but he also spoke of the beat car. He asked [redacted] if he knew Vince McCaffrey. He then told [redacted] that two 12-year-olds waved him down and said the guy in the car up there pulled over, offered them \$20 to come into the car and have sex games. They chased the car, stopping him a Leland and Magnolia. They asked what he was doing around there. Vince said he was looking for a grocery store. Vince was very apologetic. The policemen went back to the children and they were very scared.

10. [redacted]

[redacted] The policeman was divorced. He said he talked it over with his partner and he just felt he had to talk to someone to make sure his own conscience was clear in the event a child were to get hurt. The policeman sounded genuine to [redacted]. It sounded like he was trying to be discrete. [redacted] asked the policeman why he didn't take Fr. McCaffrey in. [redacted] said that he used to be a policeman himself and he would have felt obliged to at least take the "culprit" in for questioning. The policeman said that the two boys didn't want to get involved.

18. I met with [redacted] and Vince and asked [redacted] to relate the events as he heard them. I then asked Vince for his reaction. Vince said there had been no incident recently at all. The incident I described actually took place in early February, probably the first week of February, 1988, a year ago. A paddy wagon stopped Vince on Lawrence Avenue. The policeman said two 12-year-olds accused Vince of propositioning them and Vince denied it. The policeman asked Vince for his drivers' license. He also asked Vince what he did and he told him he was a priest. The policeman told him that he had better stay out of the neighborhood. This happened on Lawrence Avenue about two blocks west of Broadway. Vince said that what really happened was as follows: Vince had come up on a stop sign. These two kids were on the side making as if they were going to cross the street. They started out, then stopped. They began to play "chicken" with Vince and his car. Vince was getting very angry. He really thought they were going to throw a rock through his window. But Vince insists that he never said a single word to the kids and made no gestures. Vince said he was really shook up by the incident. The police asked him what he was doing in the neighborhood. He had just come from a White Hen pantry. The police didn't act like they believed Vince. They said that he had better watch out because they were going to keep an eye out for his car and he should stay out of the neighborhood. Vince wondered at the time what he should do, whether he should say something to Dom or to me.

19. Dom said he was scared for the parish. This has the potential of doing great harm to the school families, to the parish, to Vince. How do we protect all of these entities?

20. Vince said it was a terrible experience for him. He was scared and didn't know what to do and didn't think anyone would believe him. He is beginning to realize there is no future in parish ministry for him. He just recently made efforts to get into graduate school to work towards some sort of a degree. He hoped that maybe down the line he could work for Catholic Charities helping out

with sexual disorder cases or something like that.

21. Vince said the police did not believe him that night and he thinks they believed the kids. They talked down to Vince. It was very humiliating. This was around 9:15 PM, [REDACTED] It was in the Uptown area, so it wouldn't be unusual for kids to roam the streets.

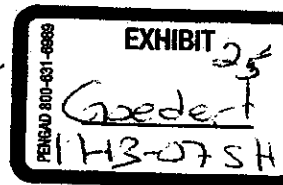
23. I really did not know what to do. It seemed unfair to insist that Vince move out of St. Josaphat, but on the other hand, I don't see much of an alternative. If he stays, we run the risk that someone else might be phoned just as the [REDACTED] were and they may not be as discrete. Moreover, what do we do if someone starts checking things out and finds that Vince does have a past history? This would certainly compromise both [REDACTED] myself and the diocese as it would appear as though we were covering up for Vince and not telling the [REDACTED] exactly what the story is. It's a complicated mess and I thought I would

24. I also put in a call to see whether or not I could track down the information through the police department. I left a message with my contact person and I will see whether or not he can get any information about the incident, either a year ago or recently.

My dear brother Joseph, <sup>sent a St. Mark Parish</sup>  
<sup>personal response</sup> CRAIG  
I came away to the retreat house for a <sup>BOB</sup>  
few days to rest awhile in the Lord - and  
try to get the priorities straight again.

I was reading your letter on the Church  
(finally!) and thinking of you on the  
news lately and all the things going  
on, so I decided to write to share some  
of my feelings. I know you have many  
with whom to consult and share your  
feelings with - but I think - sometimes,  
you must wonder what the "average guy"  
thinks - one who's not so important.

I may as well get the bad news out  
first. I was at Quigley South's final  
graduation. I know you don't agree, but  
I think you made a mistake. You've been  
involved with a lot of high schools in  
my own little way of vocation work,  
but I always felt the Quigley faculty  
was a little more in touch and interested  
in their students. I also felt confident  
in recommending the school to Hispanics.  
They had such a nice mixture of ethnic  
groups - and did a lot for the future  
of the Church and its leaderships -



even if not many chose the ministerial priesthood.

What's done is done! I will miss it! Unlike other priests, it has nothing to do with my trust in you. It bothers me when I hear people say "He listens to this one or that one" - I don't pretend to understand the politics of the Church - although I'm not naive enough to believe they don't exist.

I feel very thankful that the retreat house is here. I know this property is valuable. I come here and walk and hear the birds and see the animals and breathe deeply of God's life-giving Spirit. I'd be a lot busier than I am if I didn't have this place. It's such a contrast from Division & Western. Everyone here from Bob Ferrigan (we'll miss him) to the sisters to the staff - is so gracious and accommodating. Please try to keep this place (or find me a cabin in the woods, if we must sell!)

I hope you don't mind me writing like this. I've never done this before - It just seemed like you could use an honest, friendly note. All this headache with Churches closing - or joining together.

Second, and even more importantly,  
I admire you as a man of action.  
You do things that are not easy to do.  
You come across as sincere and  
honest, worthy of trust. You also  
are a man of prayer. You don't know  
how refreshing that is to see and ~~feel~~  
feel in a leader (and also, sad to say -  
in my opinion - ~~usual~~ unusual)  
You still come across so warm and  
genuine - so human, so humble.

And so, my brother, with trust, with  
respect, with the desire that God keeps  
you strong in your convictions, I ask  
you not to be too discouraged ever. With  
all the offices and people and priests -  
you have to deal with - you're doing just  
fine -  
and, from one of your brothers out there,  
know that I feel comfortable in putting  
my life in your hands.

P.S. you needn't feel  
obliged to reply - but, from  
time to time I might drop  
a little note - if you don't  
mind!

with love in Christ,

Bob Craig  
St. Mark.

I never want to be a pastor, especially with all these headaches. And you get all the complaints. People need a larger view of Church, like you present in your letter. The Church isn't a building, no matter how pretty it is. God doesn't mind where we worship Him - ~~and~~ only how - and that we do worship. If we could all think bigger, we wouldn't have so many problems. We all like to think that we think bigger (especially we priests) until the problems strike closer to home (not my church!)

So many poor pastors have, so many more worries with the cutbacks (and more time-consuming paperwork).

The bottom line and my main reason for writing this letter is, whether I agree or not, (and that could make life pretty boring - if we agreed all the time) you have my support and my prayers - for a couple of reasons.

First, you're the boss. I take that obedience promise pretty seriously. I still believe in God and His shepherds. My role is a lot smaller.

## MASTER'S OPINION

The attorneys representing the claimants and the Archdiocese in the above titled matter appeared before me on July 10, 2009 to review the parties' positions as to the publication of the deposition of Bishop Raymond E. Goedert taken in connection with the mediation of certain claims.

### Background

The parties entered into a Mediation Agreement on September 23, 2006. The purpose of the Agreement was to establish a process whereby certain claims would be resolved through negotiation and mediation, rather than through litigation or a trial. Thomas F. Gibbons serves as the mediator and the undersigned serves as a Master to decide certain issues related to the sharing of information. To aid and facilitate the settlement of certain claims, Jeffrey R. Anderson took the deposition of Bishop Goedert on November 13, 2007 pursuant to provisions in the Agreement relating to the sharing of information. Bishop Goedert served as the Vicar for Priests in the Archdiocese from July 1, 1987 through September, 1991. As Vicar for Priests, his responsibilities included dealing with allegations that certain priests sexually abused minors. Many of the claims at issue have now been settled.

The claimants' attorneys have expressed an interest in disseminating Bishop Goedert's deposition. The Archdiocese expressed certain concerns regarding publication. Those concerns are addressed in this opinion.

### The Archdiocese's Concerns

Both the Archdiocese and the claimants have expressed concern for the privacy of certain people who are identified in the original transcript and exhibits of the deposition. These people may be those who brought forward allegations or others who were not directly involved with the



allegations. They are either identified by name or by other circumstances that are described. Both the Archdiocese and the claimants agree that the names and identifying information of these third parties should not be disclosed.

In addition, the Archdiocese is concerned about how its observance of mandatory mental health confidentiality laws impacts the description of Bishop Goedert's efforts to respond to allegations of clergy misconduct. Bishop Goedert testified that it was the Archdiocese's regular practice to obtain a full forensic psychiatric evaluation of accused clergy from institutions that specialized in evaluation and treatment of sexual offenders and to rely on those evaluations. Bishop Goedert testified that he would not have recommended that any cleric remain in ministry where forensic psychiatrists identified a risk to children. The Archdiocese is concerned that without the disclosure of information about these opinions, Bishop Goedert's actions may appear arbitrary or unwarranted. The Archdiocese maintains that the professional advice it received cannot be disclosed because the Illinois Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Confidentiality Act prohibits the disclosure of confidential mental health information. While the claimants disagree regarding the application and scope of the Illinois Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Confidentiality Act under these circumstances, in an abundance of caution, all references to accused clergy receiving psychiatric evaluations or treatment have been redacted from the deposition transcript and exhibits. For the same reason, all of the advice and/or recommendations Bishop Goedert or the Archdiocese received from forensic psychiatrists concerning the suitability of accused clergy for any form of ministry have been redacted.

Finally, the Archdiocese expressed a concern that publication of Bishop Goedert's deposition may be confusing because Bishop Goedert's testimony describes practices prior to 1992. Joseph Cardinal Bernardin appointed a Special Commission in 1992 to review those

practices as part of an effort to improve the Archdiocese's response to allegations of sexual abuse of minors. As a result of the Special Commission's report, the Archdiocese adopted and promulgated new policies and procedures on September 21, 1992. From time to time since then, the Archdiocese has made changes intended to strengthen and improve those policies. These new policies and procedures have been in effect for more than sixteen years. Among other things, the policies create a nine-person review board (the majority of whom are lay people) to consider allegations that a priest sexually abused a minor. The policies also provide for a lay staff person to assist the Review Board. The lay staff person receives allegations on behalf of the Review Board and promptly reports them to the public authorities. A complete statement of the policies can be found on the Archdiocese's website at:

<http://policy.archchicago.org/policies/bk2ttl3chpt1num1100.pdf>.

Thus, the Archdiocese believes that readers of the transcript should be reminded that Bishop Goedert's testimony describes an approach that has not been in place since 1992.

#### The Claimants' Response

As mentioned above, the claimants share the Archdiocese privacy concerns for other victims and third parties. However, the claimants do not believe that the Archdiocese's other concerns create any particular problems for the disclosure of the deposition transcript and, in any event, believe that any concerns can be addressed by reasonable redactions or other means.

#### The Parties' Agreement

Because of this disagreement, the parties met with the Mediator, Thomas F. Gibbons, to review the deposition transcript and exhibits. They have agreed to delete or black out certain words from the deposition to help address the Archdiocese's concerns. Those deletions are sometimes called "redactions." The purpose of the redactions is to protect the privacy of those

bringing forward allegations as well as of persons who are not directly involved in these cases, and to protect information that the Archdiocese believes must be kept confidential by law. In the exhibits, the vast majority of the redactions protect the privacy of those bringing allegations. As a result of this mediation, the parties have agreed to publication of the deposition with these redactions.

### OPINION

The parties have asked the Master to review the Archdiocese's concerns and the agreed upon redactions and render an opinion about these matters. The Master has carefully done so. However, it should be noted that the parties did not request and the Master has not provided a legal opinion regarding the applicability or scope of any legal privilege. Rather, the Master acknowledges the Archdiocese's concerns and the Claimants' response, approves the parties' agreed upon redactions and the attachment of this opinion to Bishop Goedert's deposition as means to address those concerns. In addition, the Master points out the following important facts about the deposition:

1. The purpose of the deposition was to allow the claimants' attorney, Jeffrey R. Anderson, to ask Bishop Goedert questions to assist in resolving certain claims fairly and promptly.
2. At a deposition, only the witness provides testimony under oath. The words of the attorneys are not testimony. The attorney taking the deposition asks questions that he or she chooses. Accordingly, a deposition is not meant to provide a full view of a case. In addition, Illinois law provides for discovery depositions, which are not intended to be used as evidence, and evidence depositions that require stricter standards. Bishop Goedert's deposition was a discovery deposition and therefore contains hearsay and other testimony that may or may not be admissible in evidence.
3. The attorney taking a deposition also has wide latitude in the use of documents. He or she can present documents from the witness files or other documents that the witness may not have seen, and that may or may not be accurate. Documents created by attorneys and statements made by attorneys are not evidence.

This opinion shall be attached to Bishop Goedert's deposition whenever it is published.

Based upon the information the Master has been supplied thus far, this ruling shall issue.

I wish to thank the parties and their attorneys for the professional and cooperative way in which they addressed the difficult questions presented by the dissemination of this deposition.

Entered July 15, 2009

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stuart Nudelman", is written over a horizontal line.

Hon. Stuart Nudelman (Ret.)  
Master