

CONFIDENTIAL

SIEG WIDERA

L.

6/29/76

Archbishop called - Mike Short, a therapist in Elkhorn, had called in to Bob Sampon -- Short is a counselor and now advocate for [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] She reported to Short that her son had been sexually molested by Fr. Widera while on a week-end fishing outing - Son is [REDACTED] age 13, an altar boy at parish. Archbishop suggested I call Widera first, then Short, assuring complainants that W. will be removed from parish and will receive in-patient treatment, if necessary.

Called Widera - gone - his day off - left message with Henke to call me. Tried to call his parental home - Otto Widera, Hawthorne Ave. - but an unpublished number - no. info. available.

7/30

Contacted Widera in P.M. - appointment tomorrow.

7/1

At Swan - 10:30 A.M. - Widera admitted that he made "a slip". He took boy fishing alone about 3 weeks ago. He had heard nothing about the incident. He does not know therapist. He has been seeing Leo Graham for past 3 years. He is "on probation" with the law - ends in August. He was apparently shook by this discovery and sought advice what to do. I informed him that he probably would be transferred and would need in-patient treatment. I would try to keep the lid on the thing, so no police record would be made. He went to his sister's at (421-0264) -- parent's number (762-8965) and informed her of his problem. I can call her to inform him to call me back. Parents will not be informed.

Immediately called Mike Short at Lakeland Counseling Center, Elkhorn, Box 29 - on County Rd. NN, 2 miles east of Elkhorn (1-723-5400, Ext. 238). -(Ron Barta also works there - Short was guided by him). Made app't to meet Short [REDACTED] on Thursday, July 8 at 2 P.M. at Elkhorn. Short said [REDACTED] didn't know what to do after she pulled this info. out of the boy. Son must have manifested some trauma after the experience. She called Short. He feels that boy needs some help to re-establish spiritual values and attitudes toward Church and priests. [REDACTED] had not gone to police. She is separated from husband and apparently feared reprisals from Church if she would go to police. She does not want priests from parish to counsel the boy. Short feels that alcohol may be Widera's basic problem. He will contact [REDACTED] and convince her not to act with police, if Church removes W. from parish, and gets him help, as well as counsels the boy.

Widera called back - gave him above info. He asked what he should do. I suggested no further action at this time, but he should prepare to be re-assigned - which is probably the Archbishop's recommendation. Will call Widera immediately after Thurs. meeting - he will meet me in Elkhorn.

Called and left above information with Ralph F. for the Archbishop.

EX-101

SIEG WIDERA

2.

7/7

Leo Graham called - had received note from Fr.W. saying that he would not be in for appointment because he would be going to St.Vincent Hospital, etc.

- Leo did not know what had happened but was greatly concerned that if Fr.W. leaves state during this probationary period, he could be picked up and immediately sent to prison without any further court trial. Graham is the de facto probationary officer. Has seen Widera weekly for past 3 years. Graham feels that if Fr.Widers must be sent to hospitalization, it must be within State (at least during next 60 days)- Leo doubts value of in-patient treatment however. If [redacted] will not approach police, Graham suggests that Fr.W. remain in Delavan - at least temporarily. He suggests that I offer services of the Archdiocese for a one shot evaluation of the boy (to determine if there be any traumatic damages (usually in these cases, there is not). Graham at first was disturbed that his patient was being sent out of State without consultation with Leo. I explained that nothing was finalized yet - and in view of his probationary situation, he probably would not be sent. (If necessary, Graham would suggest Milw. Sanitarium). I also explained that I was following Archbishop's agenda = contact, Widera, then Short, then mother, etc.

Graham asked me to report back to him after Conference with Short, mother, etc. Discussed briefly with him the Henke-Vojtik situation. Graham feels if Widera goes, this above relationship will deteriorate. Graham feels that Widera is non-communicative, and willing to agree to anything and self-destructive (not suicidal, however). Graham feels that "one slip" in 3 years is not too bad a track record.

7/8

Graham called - Probation officer is actually a member of his parish - attends W's Mass regularly. If W. is moved out of the State, P. officer will ask "Why?" Also, if W. is moved before probation period is over, P.O. will find out the reason. Graham does not know the legal consequences if P.O. finds out post hoc what happened pre-hoc - doesn't know what attorney to call.

Went to Lakeland Counseling Center at Elkhorn - met Mike Short, [redacted] - heard [redacted] story - mature lad of 10 years - incident happened in lake while swimming - also next day in sacristy before Mass.

- [redacted] was not seeking hospitalization - only that Fr.W. be moved from parish - she doesn't want to see him
- otherwise she will take her children out of School
- she understands that Fr.W. is sick but was greatly disillusioned by his conduct - she agreed to bring [redacted] to Leo Graham for an evaluation to see if any traumatic effects. No cost to her. I tried to help the boy sort through his feelings. I indicated that

SIEG WIDERA

3.

7/8 = cont'd.

I had spoken to Leo Graham re:counseling for Fr. W. (I did not reveal that Fr. W. had been seeing him for 3 yrs. already)

Then called Fr. W. to come to Elkhorn restaurant.

- told him to re-schedule his appointments with Graham
- find himself a Spiritual director
- anticipate moving from Delavan after his probation is over
- not to tell Fr. Henke at this time
- stay away from [REDACTED]
- also stay away from another boy he is seen with frequently

7/9

Reported to Archbishop. He agreed that Fr. W. should continue with Graham - should not be moved out of State for hospitalization - will move Fr. W. after probation period is over (I shall find out when from Graham). He said I can call Paul Noelke Co. attorneys [REDACTED]

ATTORNEY/CLIENT
PRIVILEGE

7/12

Leo Graham-
(964-7520)
2939 N. Oakland

Called Graham - gave him above report - he does not know exact day of probation termination: but presumes it to be mid-August - he is concerned that Widera get a good spot without pressures as next assignment - wishes me to influence Personnel Board at that time - Graham will call Personnel Board, too, if necessary.

- He will call [REDACTED] and make an appointment for [REDACTED], etc.

7/26

Short called - [REDACTED] had heard from no-one I told him I had contacted Graham and Archbishop
-Widera will probably not be moved till after Labor Day because of replacement problems
-he should give this info. to [REDACTED]

I called Graham's office - on vacation till the 10th - his secretary has been trying to reach [REDACTED] to make an appointment with her and boy - she will continue to try to reach her to set up the appointment.

SIEG WIDERA

4.

8/20

- Graham called - he had seen [redacted] and son-
- a) no permanent damage to son - spent 3 hrs. with mother.
 - b) Waldbauer called - Henke had called him and wanted Widera removed - he had learned about incident from other people - then he asked [redacted] about it. Waldbauer agreed to get supply help for the parish.
 - c) Called Graham - Parole terminated Aug. 16th, he learned from lawyer.
 - d) Called Henke and Widera - they agreed that W. would go "on vacation" (California!) as soon as Waldbauer would find supply help. Then he would be transferred. W. should tell people only that he's going on vacation.
 - e) Called Waldbauer - he will hunt - has not alerted Board to this case - in agreement with above arrangements.

8/23

Told Archbishop of the above developments.

9/27

Approached Esser about above - the Personnel Board has heard nothing from anyone - Archbishop has not spoken to Personnel Board about this matter

- however, Paul knew that Widera's father had been to Delavan and moved out Siegfried's belongings
- Paul would have problem in conscience to re-assign Siegfried- When? and should they really - in view of Widera's record???

Graham called - Widera calls him every week to 10 days from Calif. - he is living with his brother - dad is very incensed (disowning Sieg?) about matter - Graham said Siegfried said that maybe he should stay in California and get himself a job (outside ministry). Graham wondered if this should be the direction of counsel. I reluctantly agreed - esp. in view of Esser's above comments. Graham will call Esser and discuss this with him. I explained that if he sought ministry out there I would feel obliged to send reports to the diocese in which he works.

1/77

Waldbauer gave me address of Widera in Calif. - called Graham

- but he has not heard from Widera recently - Widera was in to see Personnel Board recently.

1/11/77

Met Widera for lunch in L.A. He will work in Orange diocese

- showed me letter of app't. - confused with expression "In hospitality". He was concerned about 4 mo. back pay, Blue Cross, Pension Fund
- Said that I would confer with Sampon when I return - cf letter 1/7

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C

OFFENSE NARRATIVE CONT.

Port Police located subject 11:49 PM date. 7-1-73

at 11:50Am., 7-1-73 I arrived at the Port Washington Police Department where I met with Ptm Haig. I was advised that Mrs. [REDACTED] of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] had come to their office after hearing stories that her son, [REDACTED] was being forced to commit indecent acts by Fr. WIDERA, and that he was with him now. These acts, or some of the incidents, occurred on STH 57 in the area of the Village of Fredonia. Ptm Haig supplied me with a copy of his original complaint. Mrs. [REDACTED], her daughter, [REDACTED], and 2 of her girlfriends accompanied me to the Sheriff's Office and at 12:05Am., 7-2-73 gave me written statements attached. Sgt Trombley was advised, and he in turn contacted Det. Hackbarth who interviewed [REDACTED] in the presence of his mother.

at 12:50Am, date, I called Mrs. [REDACTED] and at my request she came to the Sheriff's Office in order to interview her sons, who where with Fr. Widera when he was asked to come down to our office, after being stopped by the Port Police.

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas J. Sedlmeier
Thomas J. Sedlmeier Dep Shf

7-2-73--12:10 AM, I along with Officer Klopp of the Port Washington PD questioned [REDACTED] about any sexual act committed with Father Widera. He did admit that there had been acts committed by the Father such as the Father playing with [REDACTED] Penis and that he had been forced to commit acts of sodomy upon the Father. These acts should have taken place in our County and Possibly in Sheboygan County. I then called Det. Hackbarth and had him come down to the office to assist in the interviewing of the [REDACTED] boy and others involved as this could possibly cover into other Counties..

Det. Hackbarth questioned the [REDACTED] boy and wrote down what he stated to him myself and Officer Klopp. This statement was read by his mother and then signed [REDACTED]

In the meantime I had Officer Sedlmeier talked to the [REDACTED] boys with their mother present and they gave him a statement, confirming what the [REDACTED] boy told us.

Det. Hackbarth, myself and Officer Klopp then questioned Father Widera. Before asking him any questions I gave him his statement of rights which he signed in front of myself and Officer Klopp.

After talking to Father Widera for a considerable length of time he did admit that he had played with a number of boys privates and that he had allowed at least two or three boys to commit an act of sodomy on him. He stated that this was to help them in their curiosity about sex. These acts of sodomy were committed in Ozaukee County on STH 84, on STH 57 and possibly on CTH K. The acts of playing with the boys privates occurred in these same areas and also in the City of Port Washington and Sheboygan County as well as Milwaukee County.

Respectfully submitted,
Eugene J. Trombley
Sgt. Eugene J. Trombley

EX102



IN COUNTY COURT, BRANCH 2, OZAUKEE COUNTY

APPEARANCES	
Plaintiff- appeared by James LaPointe, District atty.	STATE OF WISCONSIN + FRANK SIEGFRIED WIDERA 117 East Van Buren Port Washington, Wisconsin
Defendant- appeared in person and by Atty. Charles Polidori	Plaintiff vs. Clerk of Courts Defendant
DATE OF ISSUANCE 7/2/73	COMPLAINANT Robert W. Hackbarth
DATE OF ARREST 6/30/73	OFFENSE Section 944.17 - Wisconsin Statutes- Sexual Perversion
COURT OFFICER Robert W. Hackbarth	PLEA OF ACCUSED Guilty
DATE OF RETURN 7/2/73	PLAINTIFF'S WITNESSES
DEFENDANT'S WITNESSES	
JUDGMENT OF COURT	

7/2/73. Criminal Complaint filed. Case called at 11:15 a.m. Plaintiff appeared by James LaPointe, District atty. Defendant appeared in person and by Atty. Charles Polidori, 2922 W. Forest Home Ave. Milwaukee, WI Phone number 672-0100. Complaint read. Attorney for defendant presented statement to the court. Court advised defendant of maximum penalty in this matter. Matter returnable on July 16, 1973 at 8:30 a.m. for either setting date for preliminary or waiving preliminary. Atty. for defendant waived the statutory time for holding the preliminary. Defendant released on his own recognizance.

July 16, 1973. Case called at 10:27 a.m. Plaintiff appeared by Joseph McCormack, assistant to the district attorney. Defendant appeared in court in person and by Attorney Charles Polidori. Defendant's father also appeared. Defendant waived the preliminary hearing. Information filed with the court. Defendant waived the reading of the information. Defendant entered a plea of guilty. The court advised defendant of the maximum penalty if found guilty of such crime. The court questioned the defendant. The court will accept defendant's plea. Mr. McCormack and Mr. Polidori presented statements to the court. The court will withhold imposing any penalty at this time and ordered that a pre-sentence investigation be held. The court set this matter for sentencing on Monday, August 13, 1973 at 4:00 p.m.

August 13, 1973. Case called at 4:00 p.m. Plaintiff appeared by James M. LaPointe, District Attorney. Defendant appeared in court in person and by his attorney Charles Polidori. Mr. Robert Rathburn probation agent appeared in person. Mr. LaPointe presented a motion to the court to amend the complaint to allege the maximum penalty provided for this violation, to-wit: maximum penalty of not more than five (5) years imprisonment or not more than \$500.00 fine or both. Motion granted by the court. Mr. LaPointe recommends a term of 5 years be imposed and sentence stayed and be placed on probation for a period of five (5) years. Mr. Polidori presents a statement to the court. The court places defendant on probation for a period of three (3) years and defendant is to continue his program with Dr. Graham.

NE	
JURY TAX	
COURT COSTS	
CLERK FEES	
REPORTERS FEES	
WITNESS FEES	
JUROR FEES	
TOTAL	\$

September 16, 1976. Notice of Case Status Change filed. Defendant discharged 8-13-76.

STATE OF WISCONSIN } ss.
OZAUKEE COUNTY
I certify that this is a true and correct copy
of a document on file and of record in my
office and has been compared by me
Theresa A. Wester
Clerk of Courts (Deputy) Date
5-28-77

EX-103

(A)

State of Wisconsin, Branch #2 County Court, Ozaukee County

STATE OF WISCONSIN,

Plaintiff,

vs.

**JUDGMENT OF CONVICTION,
SENTENCE WITHHELD,
PROBATION ORDERED**

Frank Siegfried Widera

Defendant.

File No. _____

The defendant, following his plea of Guilty
was found guilty of the crime(s) of _____
(guilty) (nolo contendere) (not guilty was tried and)

did feloniously committed an act of sexual gratification involving the sex
organ of Frank Siegfried Widera and the mouth of .

committed in this County on June 30, 1973, in violation of Sec. 944.17 Stats.; and

On August 13, 1973, the Court inquired of the defendant why sentence should not be pronounced,
and gave the Plaintiff's Attorney, the defendant and his attorney an opportunity to be heard; and

Upon all the files, records, and proceedings, the Court found the defendant eligible for probation pursuant to the
provisions of Section 973.09, Stats., and pronounced Judgment and directed it be reduced to writing as follows:

"IT IS ADJUDGED that the defendant is convicted as found guilty, and sentence is withheld, and the defendant
is placed on probation for the period of three (3) years, in the custody and control of the Wisconsin Department
of Health and Social Services, subject to its rules and orders, and subject to making payments for

Restitution \$ _____, Costs \$ _____, Support \$ _____,
in the manner prescribed by the Department and subject to the following conditions:

Defendant is to have no contacts either professionally or socially
in Ozaukee County. Defendant is to continue his program of
psychiatric therapy with Doctor Graham and that defendant report
regularly to the professional counselors of the Department of
Health and Social Services.

STATE OF WISCONSIN

OZAUKEE COUNTY

I certify that this is a true and correct copy
of a document on file and of record in my
office and has been compared by me

Therese A. Wester
Clerk of Courts (Deputy)

Date

5-28-02

"The Sheriff is Ordered to deliver the defendant into the custody of the Department as it directs."

Dated August 13, 1973

BY ORDER OF THE COURT,

Pamela M. Rose
(Deputy) Clerk of Courts

Judge Warren A. Grady

District Attorney James M. LaPointe

Defense Attorney Charles Polidori

TO THE CLERK OF COURTS: Send a copy of this Judgment together with copies of Defendant's Probation Questionnaire
(Form C-38) to: DIVISION OF CORRECTIONS, P.O. Box 669, Madison, Wisconsin 53701

Ex103b



ARCHDIOCESAN PERSONNEL BOARD

6033 West Lloyd Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53213
475-0150

August 14, 1973

Communication from Archbishop William E. Cousins to J. Theisen, Exec. Sec.
of Priests' Personnel Board

Re: REV. SIEGFRIED F. WIDERA

Father Widera was arrested for, as the Milwaukee Sentinel stated it, sexual perversion with young boys. He appeared in the Ozaukee County Court yesterday, August 13, 1973 and was sentenced to three years probation. The Judge, who imposed the sentence, also ordered that Father Widera may not return to the Port Washington area.

Father Widera is presently seeing Dr. Leo F. Graham twice a week.

Ex 104



St. Joseph High School of Kenosha, Inc.

2401 Sixty-ninth Street
Kenosha, Wisconsin 53140
Telephone (414) 654-8651

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

REV. PAUL M. ESSER, M. Ed.
EUGENE R. HAMMOND
WILLIAM KUPFER
REV. J. LOMASZ
SR. AGNES MARIE
C. THOMAS McTERNAN
JACK RICE
WM. C. SCHMITZ
EUGENE W. SCHULTE
FERD SERTO
GENE F. SOENS

September 3, 1973

Conversation with Fr. Rolland Glass

From Paul Esser

Fr. Glass' comments on Fr. Siegfried Widera:

1. He was always in bed or sitting--literally. Not very ambitious.
2. He drank a lot. The police brought him home on at least one occasion in an intoxicated state. He would leave the bottles laying around his room.

He was a "loner." He had difficulty relating with adults. He had instant rapport with young boys and spent a lot of time with them.

4. His family seemed normal.. His father was a very strict German. His three brothers and sisters lost their German accent. Fr. Siegfried did not.
 5. He would do what he was directed to do, but no more. Would not really move in and take over with a job. He needs a programmed situation--possibly in education.
 6. He did not take care of his person. He smelled.
 7. A male grade school teacher saw Fr. Siegfried fooling around with the boys of another teacher. He said to father that if he fooled around in the same way with his students, he would punch Father in the face.
 8. Fr. Glass had reports for some time from within and without the parish that something was wrong.
 9. He coached the boys in basketball. He would be in the shower with the boys--all in the nude. When an adult male entered the shower, Fr. Siegfried covered himself with a towel.
 10. Fr. Siegfried took boys swimming at a motel in Milwaukee. Father knew the owner and could use the pool. This happened over a period of time.
 11. Parishioners came forward after the fact and indicated incidents they had noticed and warnings they had given their own children about not letting Father touch them.
- Fr. Glass' mother told Glass that Fr. Siegfried on at least one occasion had a boy ~~in~~ sleep with him overnight in the rectory.
13. Fr. Glass did confront Fr. Siegfried: "Circumstances are forcing me to draw certain conclusions about you and your conduct with little boys." Fr. Siegfried stopped seeing boys for a time but then went back to it.
 14. There was a pattern of contact with small boys.
 15. At the trial, the D.A.' office asked for the full five years in jail. The D.A. is a "good Catholic."

PME
EX105



Feb. 12, 1974

Dear Father Theisen,

I'm writing to tell you how pleased we are to have Fr. Sig Widera here in St. Andrew's parish. He has endeared himself to all who have had contact with him.

The children in our school literally follow him around; he is so kind and shows so much interest in them.

It is really great having a priest in our parish who gives the kind of example Fr. Widera does and who relates to the youngsters.

I have also heard many fine remarks regarding Father's visits to the hospital. Well - I could go on and on - but I think you can see why we are so pleased with Fr. Widera being in our parish.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Nell Flood
Vice President
St. Andrew's School Board

EX106

n. j. k



February 19, 1974

Mrs. Neill Flood
125 Racine Street
Delavan, Wisconsin 53115

Dear Mrs. Flood,

The Archdiocesan Priests' Personnel Board is in receipt of your letter dated February 12, 1974.

We are most happy to hear that you are so pleased with Father Sig Widera. We are happy to hear that he is doing well in the school and shows so much interest in the children.

I assure you that your kind letter will be brought to the attention of the entire seven man Personnel Board at our next meeting.

Thank you again for the interest and kind words you have spoken in behalf of Father Widera.

Sincerely,

ARCHDIOCESAN PERSONNEL BOARD

Rev. John J. Theisen
Executive Secretary

JJT:pml

EX-107

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Feb 20 - 1974

Rev John Theisen

Personal Board.

Dear Father Theisen

I am writing from St Andrews Church in Dilbaran we have Fr. Widner helping us.

He is so well liked so hope we can keep him permanently. He is so good with the school children, he visits the sick and elderly and is so understanding that they all look for his visits.

He is so religious and preaches a very instructive sermon.

I hope you see fit to appoint him to St Andrews as we need some one like him for our Parish.

Sincerely,
Agnus Moran

Dilbaran

Wm

Ex 108

PME

LD - 5/24/74

R5- Box 341

53115



LEO F. GRAHAM
CONSULTING PSYCHOLOGIST

CONFIDENTIAL

OFFICE HOURS BY APPOINTMENT.

P.O. BOX 11677
2935 N. OAKLAND AVE.
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN 53211
TELEPHONE 964-7520
AREA CODE 414

29 January 1976

Reverend Robert G. Sampon, Chancellor
Archdiocese of Milwaukee
345 North 95th Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53226

Dear Father:

I can fully understand the concerns which you outline in your recent note to me. I will try to explain the situations to you.

for Waup
se } Father [redacted] was referred to me by a local psychiatrist to whom he had been sent by his gastroenterologist. Father was suffering from chronic colitis which was seriously interfering with his digestion of food. As a result of this he was undergoing an increasing weight loss; at one time about a year ago he was hospitalized in Trinity Hospital because of the threat of dehydration. The way back for [redacted] has been slow and painful. The alternative to intensive care I feel sure would have been a severe ulcerative colitis of the type that his classmate Father [redacted] suffered through when he was critically ill a couple of years ago. At the present time Father's condition is much improved. His visits have been cut (as you will notice on the statements) from twice weekly to once weekly and I can foresee the time when they will be spaced even further.

Father Widera presents a completely different picture. He is, as I am sure you know, on probation for child molestation. It was a stipulation of the sentencing judge that the supervision be strict. It appears as though the judge was unusually harsh and severe in the sentencing. This is especially true since we have tried to have the probation reduced from three years to two but without success.

I am the de facto probation officer. The actual probation officer, who is a member of St. Andrew's Parish in Delavan, has been content to have virtually no contact with Father Widera except written forms which Father must fill out under State statute. In the event that Father Widera should encounter any type of difficulty, real or imagined, his probation can be suspended almost capriciously and he can be remanded--without even so much as a court hearing--to the penitentiary at Waupun. In his case

Ex 114

CONFIDENTIAL

Reverend Robert G. Sampon, Chancellor

-2-

29 January 1976

I insist on weekly meetings since the publicity and incarceration would bring incalculable harm to Father and extreme embarrassment in the press to the Archbishop and the Diocese.

*not
Fru* { All of this is in preamble to whether either of the priest patients could personally afford to underwrite part of the therapeutic expenses. Frankly, I do not know. I suspect Father [redacted]'s folks are a slight cut above the average working man in income but Father has been stationed in a large parish where I would suspect there has been an above average amount of revenue for a priest ordained as many years as he.

While Father Widera's folks are probably much wealthier, Father himself appears to have little of the material. I would suspect he has had less income since ordination and also that the legal expenses incurred were great.

Over a period of the last fifteen years it has been my privilege to have had in therapy many priests of the Archdiocese. I have never totalled the amount but I am sure that it has been more than substantial. Priests seem to do better therapeutically with psychologists than they do with psychiatrists. Perhaps this is because we come out of a broad spectrum liberal arts background rather than the more austere pre-medical training; I suspect it is even more so because psychologists do not want or require the tacit admission of being "sick" that one must give when one enters any physician's office.

The problem has been that psychologists have ordinarily not been able to recover payment from insurance companies as have psychiatrists. At the present time there is a bill before the Wisconsin Assembly which would make it mandatory for psychologists to be paid in the same way as psychiatrists. I am taking the liberty of enclosing an additional sheet of paper explaining the bill. Obviously the savings to the Diocese and to many of the religious communities would be great if the bill were enacted. While I fully understand that the Chancery cannot take a position supporting one profession against another at least you might cheer us on silently.

Again, I wish you would take the time to personally reassure the Most Reverend Archbishop that we attempt to waste no time in the resolution of problems; human beings are simply too complex to do it as quickly as any of us would like.

With every best wish,

Cordially,

Leo
Leo F. Graham
Consulting Psychologist

LFG/mgs

Enclosure



STATE OF WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
DIVISION OF CORRECTIONS

—O—

Discharge

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

It appearing to the Department of Health and Social Services that:

FRANK SIEROPIED WIDERA No. 57475-A
hereinafter referred to as the aforesaid, violated Statutes of the State of Wisconsin, was convicted, and sentenced.

It further appearing that the aforesaid has satisfied all judgments of conviction against him to date;

Now, therefore, it is ordered that effective August 13, 1976 the aforesaid be, and hereby is, discharged.

Any civil rights lost as result of such judgments of conviction are restored by virtue of this discharge, under the provisions of section 57.078 of the Statutes of the State of Wisconsin.

WISCONSIN DEPT. OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Date AUG - 5 1976

Allyn R. Sielaff
Allyn R. Sielaff, Administrator
Division of Corrections

EX115



CONFIDENTIAL

October 8, 1976

Mr. Leo F. Graham
2939 North Oakland Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53211

Dear Mr. Graham,

Subsequent to a telephone conversation between yourself and Father Paul Esser, who is a member of the Priest Personnel Board, the contents were placed on the agenda of our most recent meeting. The matter relates to the dealings of the Personnel Board with Father Siegfried Widera. As you know, his present status is tenuous, and the Board will need to make some sort of a recommendation relating to his appointment at a future date.

We are aware that Father Widera has been in consultation with you for the last number of years. It seems that rumors relating to an incident have forced his leaving St. Andrew Parish in Delavan under the guise of a taken vacation. We understand that he is presently in California and has been in communication with you. There has been no communication between Father Widera and the Personnel Board since his leaving Delavan.

Knowing how delicate this matter is, the Personnel Board has agreed to ask your consultation in our dealings with Father Widera in the future. Respecting your necessary professional confidentiality, we wonder if there is any information or suggestion that you might make that could assist the Board in its communication with him. Any response you are able to make could be most helpful and appreciated.

Your work and dedication with people who serve the Church of Milwaukee is a significant one. We pray for the Spirit to guide you in its continuation.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Reverend John J. Waldbauer,
Executive Secretary
Priests' Personnel Board

10/19/76
JW

Ex 117



October 29, 1976

The Reverend Siegfried F. Widera
1078 Salvadore
Costa Mesa, California 92626

Dear Siegfried,

This letter is written to you to follow our telephone conversation Wednesday morning. This relates to the recommendation of the Personnel Board at its meeting of October 26th. After I spoke with you, I called the Archbishop, who is aware of this direction and supports its intent.

The Personnel Board recommends a choice. First, that you pursue significant counseling to assist you in coming in touch with yourself about the action that has brought about a hasty exit from your last two assignments. Specifically, the House of Affirmation was suggested at the Board meeting and such information was given to you via the phone. Subsequent to such therapy, you would be considered for an appointment within the Archdiocese. The alternative would be for you to be released to the services of another diocese; with the permission of the Archbishop, you would request to minister elsewhere. Should you select the second alternative, the Board would ask periodic reports about your status.

You are confronted toward a decision by the Board, in what we hope is very positive toward dealing with your present situation. You may well decide to seek consultation from others like Leo Graham, your brother or others, but basically you will need to decide.

Your present status with the Archdiocese is delicate. Subsequently, your salary, insurance, and all other benefits need to be clarified. We suggest that you contact Father Sampon to finalize your present situation. Be assured that help is available to assist you through all of this. On the other hand, you may need to look to helping out in a priestly way during this duration, to get some method of financial income. The Chancellor, Father Sampon, would be able to direct you relating to faculties and benefits. His address is P. O. Box 2018, 345 North 95th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 53201.

Ex 119

The Reverend Siegfried F. Widera

do ask that underneath all of what is stated, that you are assured of our interest in you. You are a generous and loving man, who has served as a priest for almost ten years. ~~At the same time, there is something within~~ you that you need to give adequate attention to, so that you can take away the suspicion and mistrust within yourself that forces you to run away. The Personnel Board is interested in being informed at the earliest possible time of your direction in all of this.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Reverend John J. Waldbauer,
Executive Secretary
Priests' Personnel Board



December 20, 1976

His Excellency
The Most Reverend William R. Johnson
440 South Batavia Street
Orange, California 92668

ATTENTION: Father Michael Driscoll

Dear Father Driscoll,

A few days ago I talked by phone to Bishop Johnson about a possible pastoral assignment for Father Siegfried Widera of this Archdiocese. The conversation was very general and the Bishop suggested that perhaps something could be done on a temporary basis. My reason for approaching Bishop Johnson is founded in the fact that Father Widera's brother and family live in Costa Mesa, California. In the course of our conversation the Bishop informed me that he would be absent for a while and asked that I discuss the matter further with you.

I talked to Father Widera this morning and informed him that I was writing to you at the Bishop's request. I learned that he is leaving to visit his brother and will arrive in California on or about January 5th. Under the circumstances I recommended that upon his arrival he immediately get in touch with you or with the Bishop and that in the meantime I would have written to you and to His Excellency.

Father Widera was ordained in 1967 and has done good work for the Diocese in the places to which he was assigned. In his earlier years there was a moral problem having to do with a boy in school. This seemed adequately confronted through treatment and an intense desire upon Father's part to avoid any repetition of a previous offense.

More recently, however, there has been a repetition, and according to our State Laws further psychiatric treatment is mandated with the strong recommendation that no immediate assignment be made in the environs of the Archdiocese.

Father Widera has cooperated in every way and is presently under treatment. His doctor is somewhat in favor of his leaving the scene but expects that there will be continuing treatment. This has already been arranged and a doctor in California will take over at this point. From all the professional information I can gather there would seem no great risk in allowing this man to return to pastoral work, but there are legal complications at present writing. Incidentally, these legal technicalities would permit Father's going to another State as long as treatment is continued.

Ex 120

December 20, 1976

His Excellency
The Most Reverend William R. Johnson

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ATTENTION: Father Michael Driscoll

I would not expect Bishop Johnson or yourself to act in this matter without first of all interviewing Father Widera and satisfying yourself that charity will not add to existing personnel problems. If the man could be assigned on a temporary basis or if he could be given some part-time work that would give him the support of living in residence with other priests, half of the problem would be licked. This must be left to the Bishop's discretion and this discretion should not be exercised until pertinent and important questions have been answered. I hope this can be accomplished in a personal interview sometime in January.

There is no thought of incardination involved, and I am quite willing to accept the man back into the Archdiocese whenever circumstances would indicate. Though I anticipate no recurrence of this past aberration, I would certainly want to be informed if the slightest suspicion were to develop. I would like to show fraternal charity to a fellow priest but I cannot be virtuous at the expense of a fellow Bishop.

With the warmest of personal regards and with every good wish for the Holiday Season, I am

Fraternally yours in Christ,

Most Reverend William E. Cousins
Archbishop of Milwaukee



West Allis Police Department
Incident Report

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INTERVIEW WITH [REDACTED] (FATHER OF VICTIM)

I spoke with [REDACTED] regarding his son's disclosure of abuse. [REDACTED] confirmed that his son told him about the abuse while they were watching a news story about WIDERA being recently charged in Wisconsin.

[REDACTED] was very bothered by this and still is friends with the priest that WIDERA replaced at ST MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS- Father VOJTIK. [REDACTED] confirmed that he had spoken with Father VOJTIK about Father WIDERA. Father VOJTIK told him [REDACTED] that personnel within the ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE had warned him that WIDERA had a "problem with young boys" and "had to be watched" when WIDERA was transferred to ST ANDREW'S.

[REDACTED] was very bothered by the fact that his son had been molested and that the Archdiocese knew about WIDERA's problem and kept moving him. [REDACTED] wrote a letter to the Archdiocese and this was how they contacted [REDACTED]

I asked [REDACTED] if he thought Father VOJTIK would be open to talking to me about this. [REDACTED] Thought he would and gave me Father VOJTIK's phone number

INTERVIEW WITH FATHER JAMES VOJTIK (SERVED WITH WIDERA AT ST ANDREWS PARISH IN DELEVAN, WI)

I interviewed Father James P VOJTIK, (M/W; 10-24-1936; ST MARY'S LAKE CHURCH, 6092 Lake Church Rd, Belgium WI 53004; ph# 262-285-3040) via phone on 06-26-2002. I received the following information from Father VOJTIK:

"I arrived in '75 at ST ANDERWS- June or July. He (WIDERA) was already there. At some point the Pastor told me that he (WIDERA) was getting psychiatric help or counseling and that he (WIDERA) 'had trouble with boys.' (WIDERA) was supposed to be monitored while here (at ST ANDREWS). I supposed the Pastor was monitoring him. I didn't know.

I remember going to a Brewers game via bus with him and a group of kids. On the way home, I saw him rolling around on the floor with some of them. He was tickling them (boys) and they were tickling him. I did not think it was appropriate behavior and reported it to the Pastor (Eugene HENKE- now deceased). As far as how others viewed him, (WIDERA) was tremendously well-liked and was adept at most sports. He was indefatigable! Lots of activities and always on the go."

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I asked why WIDERA had to leave ST ANDREWS. Father VOJTIK explained:

"I was leaving ST ANDREWS for a new appointment. On the day I was leaving, two ladies, Ruth [REDACTED] and Jean [REDACTED] rushed into the Rectory after morning mass. They were very upset and very shaken by what they saw. They had attended morning mass and they witnessed Father WIDERA performing a sex act in the Sacristy with two boys. They came in and told me that they had 'seen him in the act' with a young server and saw him with a young child. The ladies were shaken up and crying.

The procedure back then was you tell the Pastor and the Pastor took care of it. This time I called the Priest Personnel Board or the Chancellery directly to report what had happened. I don't remember which but it was one of them. I left the parish that afternoon and WIDERA left the parish that next day; the Diocese moved him almost immediately! I'm not sure what happened but I think there was something that he could not serve in a priestly capacity in Milwaukee. I don't know if (WIDERA) was confronted. I believe they passed that off on the Pastor. I don't know if I told the Pastor or not. I did tell the Executive of the Priest Board, Father John WELLBAUER (no longer serving as a priest) and I think I also told Father Bob SAMPON."

I asked Father VOJTIK if he remembered what date this incident occurred on. Father VOJTIK told me that he was not sure but believes it occurred on August 22, 1976.

INTERVIEW WITH JEAN [REDACTED] (WITNESS TO INCIDENT IN 1976)

On 07-11-2002, I spoke with Mary Jean [REDACTED] known as Jean [REDACTED] in her home in [REDACTED]. I told her I wanted to know about Father WIDERA and said that I heard that she might have witnessed an incident. Jean [REDACTED] nodded and said, "We were in the church saying prayers after morning mass. We heard noises coming from the Sacristy. We had heard rumors about (WIDERA) before and we knew that something was going on. (WIDERA) sounded like he was roughing them (the altar boys who had just served mass with WIDERA) up. We could hear the two boys crying out, very matter of fact, 'No! Stop it!' We knew the boys and knew what he was doing to them in there. We went to the Rectory and told Father VOJTIK what was going on."

INTERVIEW WITH RUTH [REDACTED] (WITNESS TO INCIDENT IN 1976)

On 07-12-2002, I spoke with Ruth [REDACTED] in her home in [REDACTED] regarding the incident she witnessed in 1976. Ruth relayed the following information:

"I was a friend of the housekeeper, Agnes [REDACTED] (now deceased). She told me that Father WIDERA would have young boys come over to the Rectory and ring the doorbell. Father HENKE got very upset and would 'shoo' them away. (Agnes) would get angry with Father HENKE for this, not realizing what Father WIDERA was doing with those boys.



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One day after morning mass, I was in the church and I heard the altar boys 'squealing.' There was a lot of commotion in the Sacristy...something wrong in there. I told someone... I don't remember who I told. Within days (WIDERA) was gone from the parish."

SUBPOENA TO ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE FOR RECORDS REGARDING SIEGFRIED WIDERA

ADA Liegel had requested WIDERA's records from the ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE. On May 13, 2002, the ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE voluntarily turned over 56 pages of documents pertaining to Siegfried WIDERA. None of those documents mentioned the 1976 incident reported directly to the Archdiocese by Father VOJTIK. ADA Liegel contacted Matthew FLYNN, the attorney retained by the ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE, to inform him that he (ADA Liegel) believed there were documents that had not been turned over. Attorney Flynn said the Archdiocese would not turn over treatment documentation or other documentation without a subpoena as the information in those documents may be privileged.

On 07-11-2002, ADA Liegel drafted a Subpoena Duces Tecum for any information, including, without exception, all information in the custody and control of the ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE whether or not such information may be considered secret or confidential pursuant to Roman Catholic Canon Law. Milwaukee County Judicial Court Commissioner Barry Slagle signed the subpoena and it was delivered to QUARLES & BRADY LLP/ Attorney Matthew FLYNN.

MOTION FOR A PROTECTIVE ORDER TO PREVENT THE RELEASE OF WIDERA'S TREATMENT RECORDS AND OTHER RECORDS

In a letter dated 07-26-2002, Attorney David MUTH (QUARLES & BRADY) provided notice that as counsel for the ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE, he had filed a Notice of Motion and Motion for a Protective Order to prevent having to produce certain documents "on the grounds that they are protected from disclosure." The motion was to be heard at a future time and date. It did not occur, as WIDERA was not taken into custody.

DOCUMENTS TURNED OVER UPON SUBPOENA

A packet from QUARLES & BRADY was hand delivered to the West Allis Police Department. The packet contained all the documents the ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE was willing to turn over in response to the subpoena. The packet contained the following groups of documents:

- Priest Ombudsman File- marked "Confidential"



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██████████ mother admitted that her son had told her that he did not like Father WIDERA because WIDERA had tickled him between his legs. ██████████ disclosed this to his mother in the fall of 1972. His mother thought that ██████████ must have been mistaken and if it did occur, she dismissed it as having occurred accidentally. ██████████ stated, "I didn't know him but I thought it was all right (██████████ going places with WIDERA), because he was a Priest."

OZSO DET Robert HACKBARTH, OZSO SGT Eugene TROMBLEY and Port Washington PD officer Allan KLOPP obtained a verbal confession from WIDERA regarding abuse incidents in Ozaukee and Milwaukee counties. The report states, "After talking to Father WIDERA for a considerable length of time he did admit that he had played with a number of boys privates and that he had allowed at least two or three boys to commit an act of sodomy on him. He states that this was to help them in their curiosity about sex. These acts of sodomy were committed in Ozaukee County on STH 84, on STH 57 and possibly on CTH K. The acts of playing with the boys privates occurred in these same areas and also in the City of Port Washington and Sheboygan County as well as Milwaukee County."

INTERVIEW: ALLAN KLOPP (WITNESS/ RETIRED OFFICER- WIDERA'S 1973 CONFESSION)

On 05-20-2002, I made contact with Allan KLOPP. He confirmed that he had been employed by the Port Washington Police Department and was now retired. I explained the reason I was calling and asked him what he remembered about that 1973 confession made by WIDERA.

Allan told me, "He (WIDERA) was drinking the boys urine! He would pull off on the side of the road and have the boys get out of the vehicle. He would have the boys drop their pants and urinate into his mouth! That's what I remember! I had to leave the interview 2 or 3 times because I wanted to punch his so badly! He honestly believed that this touching and molestation and urination crap caused no harm to the boys! I would lay it out for him, explain it to him. He looked me in the eyes and basically told me it was no big deal. For him this stuff was like saying, 'I breathe air' or 'I eat food.' He felt that these acts of molesting young boys were normal and natural."

Allan told me that he tried to find out what happened with WIDERA's case. The only answer he received from the Ozaukee County DA's office (in the 1970's) was that it was turned over to the Church to handle.

INTERVIEW: EUGENE TROMBLEY (WITNESS/ RETIRED SERGEANT; DOCUMENTED WIDERA'S 1973 CONFESSION)

I spoke with Eugene TROMBLEY regarding Siegfried WIDERA. Eugene TROMBLEY was unable to recall any events by WIDERA'S name alone. He told me that he would need to see the reports or his memo book to jog his memory. I will attempt to interview him, in-person, at a later date.