

**Confidential
Memorandum**

To: Cardinal Law

From: Reverend William F. Murphy *WFM*

Date: June 18, 1997

Re: Fr. Paul Shanley

I received a letter from Fr. Shanley in which he reports that Cardinal O'Connor has rejected the proposal that Paul become Executive Director of Leo House in New York. Because of this I have not sent the enclosed letter. Would you like any letter to go to Cardinal O'Connor?

I confirmed the decision with Msgr Edward O'Donnell, Priest Personnel Director of the Archdiocese of New York. Msgr. O'Donnell says that Cardinal O'Connor feels the situation in the Leo House neighborhood is too volatile to risk the publicity which might arise.

I spoke to Fr. Shanley, who is disappointed that he did not receive the appointment. He will have to leave his position, which was de facto Executive Director (but without the title). He does not know when he will have to vacate Leo House.

I assured him that he will not be stranded by the Archdiocese. He asked about Regina Cleri. I said I would investigate that. I will ask Bishop Murphy about the possibility of that arrangement.

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