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- S E A L E D -
STATE OF CONNECTICUT : SUPERIOR COURT
JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF FAIRFIELD
AT BRIDGEPORT

-----X
JOHN DOE, :
Plaintiff, :
-versus- : CV-96-0055067S
BRIDGEPORT ROMAN CATHOLIC :
DIOCESAN CORP., ET AL., :
Defendants. :
-----X

Deposition of MARTIN J. FEDERICI,
taken pursuant to Notice, at Tremont &
Sheldon, 64 Lyons Terrace, Bridgeport,
Connecticut, before Gerald Gale, a Notary
Public and Registered Merit Reporter in and
for the State of Connecticut, on November
5, 1996, at 10:00 a.m.

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1 Q. To 1983?
2 A. Yes.
3 Q. Did you know M-009 as a
4 parishioner of St. Joseph's?
5 A. No.
6 Q. Did you know him while you were at
7 St. Joseph's?
8 A. I decline to answer according to the
9 Fifth Amendment.
10 Q. Did you ever have sexual relations with
11 M-009?
12 A. I decline to answer.
13 Q. Did you have sexual relations with
14 M-009 when he was under the age of 18?
15 A. I decline to answer.
16 Q. Did you ever have oral sex with M-009
17 ?
18 A. I decline to answer.
19 Q. Did you have anal sex with him?
20 A. I decline to answer.
21 Q. Did you ever masturbate him?
22 A. I decline to answer.
23 Q. Did you ever hear his confession and
24 masturbate while he was giving you his
25 confession?

1 A. I decline to answer.

2 Q. Did you know John Medgansis,
3 M-e-d-g-a-n-s-i-s?

4 A. I decline to answer.

5 Q. Were you the -- were you associated
6 with St. Ambrose Parish in Bridgeport,
7 Connecticut?

8 A. Yes, sir.

9 Q. What was your position at St. Ambrose
10 Parish?

11 A. Co-pastor.

12 Q. What was your term of office, if you
13 will, at St. Ambrose Parish?

14 A. 1970 to 1971.

15 Q. During that period of time did you know
16 John Medgansis?

17 A. I decline to answer.

18 Q. Did you ever have anal sex with John
19 Medgansis?

20 A. I decline to answer.

21 Q. Did you ever touch John Medgansis's
22 penis, his anus or his testicles?

23 A. I decline to answer.

24 Q. Same grounds, the Fifth Amendment?

25 A. Yes.

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1 Diocese of Bridgeport.

2 Q. Did you ever have any discussions with
3 Monsignor Cusak about sexually abusing children?

4 A. I decline to answer.

5 Q. On what basis?

6 A. On the grounds of the Fifth Amendment.

7 Q. Did you have any discussions with
8 Monsignor Cusak about complaints brought by
9 **M-009** and his father that in effect you
10 sexually abused him and had oral sex with him at
11 St. Joseph's Church in Shelton?

12 A. I decline to answer according to the
13 Fifth Amendment.

14 Q. Could you tell me, Father, whether you
15 believe in the vow of chastity?

16 A. Yes, sir.

17 Q. Do you believe that the vow of chastity
18 precludes you from masturbating as a theological
19 principle?

20 A. No.

21 Q. Do you believe that the vow of chastity
22 is broken by having a casual sexual relationship
23 with an individual?

24 MR. MINOGUE: I am going to
25 object to the form of that question. I don't

1 liturgical duties? Did you say mass there?

2 A. Sure. I just assumed the regular
3 parochial duties of mass, confession, baptism,
4 weddings, funerals and so on.

5 Q. You did that. Were you considered an
6 assistant pastor?

7 A. At that time we were considered
8 curates.

9 Q. Who was the pastor there?

10 A. The Monsignor Patrick Donnelly.

11 Q. Who else was at the Assumption Church
12 while you were there, other priests?

13 A. Richard Monahan.

14 Q. Three of you?

15 A. For a while.

16 Q. Then --

17 A. Then there were two of us.

18 Q. At the same time you taught at Central
19 Catholic?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Where was that?

22 A. Norwalk.

23 Q. What did you teach there?

24 A. I was guidance counselor, and I taught
25 third year religion.

1 Q. For how long a period did you do that?
2 A. About a year and a half.
3 Q. Now, have you ever taken a leave of
4 absence?
5 A. No, sir.
6 Q. You never have?
7 A. No, sir.
8 Q. Have you ever been asked to take a
9 leave of absence?
10 A. No, sir.
11 Q. Has there been any time between the
12 time that you became a priest and before you
13 started your last assignment at St. Augustine's
14 that you did not perform your duties as a
15 priest, in other words, in a parish, because you
16 were given a leave by the church?
17 A. I decline to answer.
18 Q. On what grounds?
19 A. The Fifth Amendment.
20 Q. Were you ever institutionalized at the
21 Institute of the Living in Hartford for sexual
22 activity with children?
23 A. I decline to answer on the grounds of
24 the Fifth Amendment.
25 Q. Were you ever hospitalized at any place

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1 because -- any psychiatric or psychological
2 institution because of claims of sexual abuse
3 brought against you?

4 A. I decline to answer on the grounds of
5 the Fifth Amendment.

6 Q. Now, you were transferred from -- I
7 will withdraw that.

8 At some point you obviously left
9 the Assumption Church?

10 A. Yes, sir.

11 Q. Why were you transferred, do you know?

12 A. I was named co-pastor at St. Ambrose in
13 Bridgeport.

14 Q. Was that in 1971?

15 A. It was 1970.

16 Q. You indicated that the other co-pastor
17 was Father Gilbride at that time?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Were there any other priests at that
20 church?

21 A. Yes, sir.

22 Q. Who else was at that church?

23 A. Father William Conklin and Father
24 Steven Balint.

25 Q. What were your duties at St. Ambrose

1 Parish?

2 A. The youth group, or CYO at that time,
3 and the school.

4 Q. I think you have told us already about
5 the school. Beyond the youth group, were you
6 involved at all with the altar servers?

7 A. No, sir.

8 Q. Who did that?

9 A. Father Balint.

10 Q. In addition to those priests --
11 Withdrawn.

12 How long were you at St. Ambrose?

13 A. One year.

14 Q. Do you recall whether you had a
15 secretary or receptionist at the St. Ambrose
16 rectory?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Do you recall her name?

19 A. No, I don't, sir.

20 Q. Where was St. Ambrose Rectory located?

21 A. On Boston Avenue.

22 Q. Where was that in relation to the
23 church?

24 A. Side by side.

25 Q. Why were you transferred from

1 St. Ambrose?

2 A. I went to the Assumption Church in
3 Westport and was given full-time duties at
4 Cathedral Girls High School.

5 Q. You say you went to Assumption Church
6 in Westport?

7 A. Fairfield. I am sorry if I said
8 Westport.

9 Q. In Fairfield. And what was your
10 position at Assumption Church in Fairfield?

11 A. I was in residence.

12 Q. Were you a pastor?

13 A. No. In residence means you had weekend
14 responsibilities.

15 Q. Where did you -- where were you
16 assigned to?

17 A. Cathedral Girls High School.

18 Q. At the time that you were transferred
19 from St. Ambrose, did you discuss your transfer
20 with anyone? I mean by that, before you were
21 transferred, did you discuss it with anyone in
22 the diocese administration?

23 A. No, sir. Only to the effect that
24 somebody told me where I was going. It wasn't a
25 discussion.

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1 Q. Someone told you you were going to be
2 assigned there?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. At that point was the complaint -- the
5 fact that you were subject to a complaint, was
6 that brought up?

7 A. I refuse to answer on the Fifth
8 Amendment.

9 Q. You were transferred when? When was
10 this, approximately?

11 A. September the 11th, 1971.

12 Q. Now, what were your teaching duties at
13 the high school? Did you say you had gone to
14 Cathedral?

15 A. Yes. I am not sure, Mr. Tremont,
16 because it changed, but I was spiritual director
17 at one point of the school, and I also taught
18 classes, but I am not sure which way they
19 dovetailed.

20 Q. This was an all-girls school?

21 A. Yes, sir.

22 Q. How long were you there, approximately?

23 A. Maybe three years.

24 Q. After you finished those duties, what
25 did you do?

1 ever received any type of psychological or
2 psychiatric counseling, psychological therapy?

3 A. Repeat the question.

4 Q. Have you ever, at any time before you
5 became a priest or while you have been a priest,
6 have you ever received any type of outpatient
7 psychological counseling?

8 A. I know. I got distracted, I am sorry.

9 Q. At any time from the time before you
10 became a priest, any time in your adult life,
11 have you -- or up to the present, have you
12 received any type of psychological counseling?

13 A. Yes, sir.

14 Q. Could you tell me when, approximately
15 when you received psychological counseling,
16 approximately?

17 A. 1968. I know 1994.

18 Q. In 1968, where did you receive it?

19 A. From a psychiatrist.

20 Q. When I say -- Where was that?

21 A. Fairfield.

22 Q. What was its purpose?

23 A. That's privileged information.

24 Q. Do you know why you went? Not what the
25 psychiatrist said or what he did, but why you

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