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COPY

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT  
JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF FAIRFIELD  
AT BRIDGEPORT

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JAMES HARDING,

X

Plaintiff(s)

X

NO. CV 95 0328519 S

-vs-

OCTOBER 7, 1996

BRIDGEPORT ROMAN CATHOLIC  
DIOCESAN CORPORATION, ET AL,

X

Defendant(s)

X

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DEPOSITION OF JAMES HARDING

Pretrial deposition taken in the above-entitled action on behalf of the plaintiff, before John J. Carreiro, a Notary Public, pursuant to the Practice Book Civil Rules of Procedure, at the Law Offices of Owens, Schine, Nicola & Donahue, P.C., 799 Silver Lane, Trumbull, Connecticut.

JOHN J. CARREIRO - COMPUTER REPORTING SERVICE - 452-1148

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1 HARDING - DIRECT - GOLGER

2 Q Did you like hanging out with him?

3 A I liked going out in the boat. I liked going  
4 riding motorcycles. In that respect, yes. Did I like  
5 it all around? No. I was different from most people,  
6 and I kind of -- I was --

7 Q Now, you indicate you were fifteen years old  
8 when you went cross-country, right?

9 A Yes.

10 Q There were four people that went on the trip?

11 A Yes.

12 Q One was Father Coleman and another individual  
13 was named M-019. What was the last name?

14 A M-019.

15 Q And M-019's mother?

16 A Yes.

17 Q Whose idea was it to go cross-country?

18 A M-019 and his mother planned a trip, and he  
19 actually asked somebody else to go, and at the last  
20 minute they said they couldn't go, and then M-019 asked  
21 me if I wanted to go. It was the second day of the  
22 trip, and their car was not able to make it up and down  
23 the hills with all the camping equipment, and they  
24 asked me to call Coleman, call Father Coleman up.

25 Q Were they parishioners of Father Coleman?

1 HARDING - DIRECT - GOLGER

2 A No.

3 Q Why would they ask you to call Father Coleman  
4 up?

5 A I ended up going on the trip with them, and  
6 they knew Coleman, and I called him up and he came up  
7 and brought his car and ended up spending, I don't  
8 know, two months with us.

9 Q Two months going cross-country?

10 A Yes.

11 Q Did you haul a camper?

12 A No. Two cars.

13 Q Now, what was M-019's mother's name?

14 A I don't know.

15 Q Do you know where she lives?

16 A They were living in New Canaan at that time.

17 Q Do you have any idea whether she still lives  
18 in New Canaan?

19 A Right now?

20 Q Yes.

21 A Presently she's dead. She died.

22 Q You are not sure of the whereabouts of your  
23 friend, M-019?

24 A No.

25 Q Now, did any incidents of sexual abuse occur

## HARDING - DIRECT - GOLGER

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during the cross-country trip?

A Yes.

Q Did it occur on a daily basis?

A Yes.

Q And do you recall whether anyone other than, perhaps, **M-019** ever witnessed any abuse during the trip?

A No.

Q Other than **M-019** possibly witnessing some abuse and your sister witnessing some abuse between Father Coleman and your brother, **M-030**, do you know if there was anyone in existence that ever saw you and Father Coleman engaged in sexual conduct?

A Not that I know of.

Q When you would go on Father Coleman's boat, where would you go?

A Out around the Norwalk Islands.

Q Did he ever take anyone out on the boat other than you?

A Yes.

Q Did you ever go out with other people?

A Yes.

Q Did he ever abuse you on the boat?

A Not during the day, no.