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 1 STATE OF CONNECTICUT : SUPERIOR COURT  
 2 JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF FAIRFIELD  
 3 AT BRIDGEPORT  
 4  
 5 ----- X  
 6 S.P. CARR, :  
 7 Plaintiff, : Case No.  
 8 -versus- : CV95-0321988S  
 9 BRIDGEPORT ROMAN CATHOLIC :  
 10 DIOCESAN CORP., ET AL, :  
 11 Defendants. :  
 12 ----- X  
 13  
 14  
 15

16 Deposition of CHARLES CARR, taken  
 17 pursuant to Section 243 et seq. of the  
 18 Connecticut Practice Book at the law offices  
 19 of Tremont & Sheldon, 64 Lyon Terrace,  
 20 Bridgeport, Connecticut, before Elizabeth A.  
 21 Zawacki, a Registered Merit Reporter and  
 22 Notary Public in and for the State of  
 23 Connecticut, on Wednesday, October 5, 1995,  
 24 at 10:15 a.m.  
 25

24 I just want to clarify one point,  
 25 Mr. Tremont. This deposition is being taken for

0002  
 1 A P P E A R A N C E S :

2  
 3 For the Plaintiff:  
 4 TREMONT & SHELDON  
 5 64 Lyon Terrace  
 6 Bridgeport, Connecticut 06604  
 7 BY: PAUL TREMONT, ESQ.  
 8 DOUGLAS MAHONEY, ESQ.  
 9 CINDY ROBINSON, ESQ.

10  
 11 For the Defendant Bridgeport Roman Catholic  
 12 Diocesan Corp. :  
 13 HALLORAN & SAGE  
 14 One Goodwin Square  
 15 Hartford, Connecticut 06103  
 16 BY: JOSEPH T. SWEENEY, ESQ.

17  
 18 For the Defendant Charles Carr:  
 19 OWENS, SCHINE, NICOLA & DONEHUE  
 20 799 Silver Lane  
 21 Trumbull, Connecticut 06811  
 22 BY: ROBERT G. GOLGER, ESQ.

23  
 24 Also Present:  
 25 Monsignor Laurence Bronkiewicz

0003  
 1 S T I P U L A T I O N S

2  
 3 IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED  
 4 by and between counsel for the respective parties  
 5 hereto that all technicalities as to proof of the  
 6 official character before whom the deposition is  
 7 to be taken are waived.

8  
 9 IT IS FURTHER STIPULATED AND AGREED  
 10 by and between counsel for the respective parties  
 11 hereto that the deposition may be signed before  
 12 any Notary Public.

13  
 14 IT IS FURTHER STIPULATED AND AGREED  
 15 by and between counsel for the respective parties  
 16 hereto that all objections, except as to form, are  
 17 reserved to the time of trial.

18  
 19 \* \* \* \* \*

0004  
 1 MR. TREMONT: The notice of the  
 2 deposition on this case is dated September 19,  
 3 1995, and it's for the deposition of Charles Carr.  
 4 The deposition is being taken under a court order,  
 5 and the deposition will ultimately be sealed, so  
 6 that after the deposition is transcribed, it may  
 7 be sealed.  
 8 I assume that the defendant does  
 9 not waive the reading and signing of the  
 10 deposition, so that the original deposition should  
 11 be sent to Attorney Golger, who will have his  
 12 client review it, and then it would, as I say,  
 13 remain sealed, and the deposition is taken under  
 14 an order of court, which provides that any  
 15 information elicited from the deposition, which  
 16 information the plaintiffs did not previously  
 17 have, will remain secret.  
 18 Anything which the plaintiffs have  
 19 had before, information before, obviously can be  
 20 disseminated in the courts in accordance with the  
 21 First Amendment.  
 22 Do you agree, Mr. Sweeney?  
 23 MR. SWEENEY: It sounds correct.

- (1) ...  
 (2) **A. Yes.**  
 (3) **Q. Describe, if you will for a moment, the**  
 (4) **rectory to me as best you remember it.**  
 (5) **A. There was a front vestibule or entrance**  
 (6) **area, and then there was a room, an office, a**  
 (7) **receiving office to the left. Then it opened up**  
 (8) **into a living room on the right, and then to the**  
 (9) **left would be a hallway leading to the kitchen,**  
 (10) **and then there was the pastor's bedroom, and then**  
 (11) **there was a staircase going up to a landing where**  
 (12) **you would have two priests' rooms on either side.**  
 (13) **Q. Now, did you pay rent to live in the**  
 (14) **rectory?**  
 (15) **A. No.**  
 (16) **Q. Who provided the sleeping quarters?**  
 (17) **A. The church did.**  
 (18) **Q. What about the food?**  
 (19) **A. The church did.**  
 (20) **Q. You did not pay board as such?**  
 (21) **A. No.**  
 (22) **Q. You obviously were receiving a salary**  
 (23) **from the church?**  
 (24) **A. Yes.**  
 (25) **Q. During the times that you were a priest**

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- (1) **for the Bridgeport diocese, were you available 24**  
 (2) **hours a day to minister to your flock?**  
 (3) **A. Well, I tried to be.**  
 (4) **Q. Would you go out evenings? Would you**  
 (5) **make house calls?**  
 (6) **A. Yes.**  
 (7) **Q. Would you go to hospitals?**  
 (8) **A. Yes.**  
 (9) **Q. And places like that?**  
 (10) **A. Yes.**  
 (11) **Q. At any time of the day or night?**  
 (12) **A. Yes.**  
 (13) **Q. Where would you be contacted if people**  
 (14) **wanted to get hold of you because of an**  
 (15) **ecclesiastical emergency, if you will?**  
 (16) **A. We had an answering service, and any**  
 (17) **time that you were out, obviously the answering**  
 (18) **service would take all the messages, and you can**  
 (19) **call into the answering service to find out.**  
 (20) **Q. That would be related to the rectory?**  
 (21) **A. Yes.**  
 (22) **Q. Were the offices of the church also in**  
 (23) **the rectory?**  
 (24) **A. Yes.**  
 (25) **Q. Now, who was the secretary that was**

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- (1) **there?**  
 (2) **A. The first name is Eileen. I cannot**  
 (3) **remember her last name.**  
 (4) **Q. Do you recall whether she was there**  
 (5) **during the entire time that you were there, if you**  
 (6) **remember? If you don't, just say so.**  
 (7) **A. I believe she was, yes.**  
 (8) **Q. Now, could you tell me, as you started**  
 (9) **out at Our Lady of Fatima, what was your job**  
 (10) **responsibilities? What duties did you have?**  
 (11) **A. As an associate pastor, I had all of**  
 (12) **the pastoral duties that would come with the job.**  
 (13) **That would be celebrating Mass, hearing**  
 (14) **confessions, doing weddings, funerals, baptisms.**  
 (15) **Q. Did you do anything else? For example,**  
 (16) **did you do anything with the altar boys?**  
 (17) **MR. GOLGER: Objection. What do**  
 (18) **you mean? It's a kind of ambiguous question.**  
 (19) **Q. Was somebody in charge of the altar**  
 (20) **boys?**  
 (21) **A. Yes.**  
 (22) **Q. Who was that?**  
 (23) **A. Father Palmer.**  
 (24) **Q. So you were not in charge of the altar**  
 (25) **boys?**

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- (1) **A. No.**  
 (2) **Q. What about CYO? Was there a CYO there?**  
 (3) **A. There was a good religious education**  
 (4) **program.**  
 (5) **Q. Were you involved in that at all?**  
 (6) **A. I was involved in that.**  
 (7) **Q. How were you involved with that?**  
 (8) **A. By helping to teach religion classes to**  
 (9) **the different high school students who were**  
 (10) **attending the release time program.**  
 (11) **Q. So there was a release time program,**  
 (12) **and that is for Catholic students that attended**  
 (13) **non-Catholic schools?**  
 (14) **A. Right, yes.**  
 (15) **Q. They would come into the parish and**  
 (16) **they would be taught Catholic doctrine?**  
 (17) **A. Yes.**  
 (18) **Q. At a time which is provided by the**  
 (19) **State of Connecticut to allow them to leave the,**  
 (20) **recess the public school and commence this**  
 (21) **program?**  
 (22) **A. Yes.**  
 (23) **Q. Now, was Our Lady of Fatima parish, in**  
 (24) **addition to a church and a rectory, was there a**  
 (25) **school attached to the parish?**

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- (1) **A. There was.**  
 (2) **Q. This was a Catholic grammar school?**  
 (3) **A. Catholic grammar school.**  
 (4) **Q. Was it within that Catholic grammar**  
 (5) **school that you taught these students who came at**  
 (6) **release time? You used those facilities?**  
 (7) **A. Not those facilities. No. We would**  
 (8) **use homes of different parents who volunteered to**  
 (9) **have groups of students taught in their homes.**  
 (10) **Q. So you would do it at homes?**  
 (11) **A. Yes.**  
 (12) **Q. As opposed to the school?**  
 (13) **A. Yes.**  
 (14) **Q. Did you ever teach in the grammar**  
 (15) **school that was on the premises?**  
 (16) **A. On occasion I would be invited to come**  
 (17) **over by one of the teachers to teach one of the**  
 (18) **grades of children.**  
 (19) **Q. What would you teach them?**  
 (20) **A. It would be religion.**  
 (21) **Q. Now, during the time that you were at**  
 (22) **that particular parish, what was your manner of**  
 (23) **dress?**  
 (24) **A. How did I dress?**  
 (25) **Q. Yes.**

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- (1) **A. Depending on what the responsibility**  
 (2) **was, I would either be dressed in my clerical**  
 (3) **collar or not.**  
 (4) **Q. You say your clerical collar or not.**  
 (5) **A. The black shirt. If it were for Mass,**  
 (6) **I would be wearing my black shirt. If it were for**  
 (7) **any of the sacraments, I would be wearing my black**  
 (8) **shirt. Depending on the - if it was a big**  
 (9) **religious education meeting, I would be wearing my**  
 (10) **black shirt. But most often I was wearing a sport**  
 (11) **shirt.**  
 (12) **Q. Now, how were you paid?**  
 (13) **A. I don't understand the question.**  
 (14) **Q. How were you paid? Who paid you?**  
 (15) **A. The parish paid me.**  
 (16) **Q. The parish. So you received a check**  
 (17) **from the parish?**  
 (18) **A. Yes.**  
 (19) **Q. When you filed your income tax returns,**  
 (20) **they indicated that it was the parish, as opposed**  
 (21) **to the diocese of Bridgeport, that paid you?**  
 (22) **A. Yes.**  
 (23) **Q. How do you receive your checks today?**  
 (24) **A. The church that you are assigned to**  
 (25) **pays for your salary.**

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- (1) A. This would be 1984.
- (2) Q. -1984, and did you accept that?
- (3) A. I did.
- (4) Q. You, as a result, repaired to St. Mary's parish in Bethel?
- (5) A. Yes.
- (7) Q. What happened at that particular time?
- (8) A. Well, I was there for about a month and a half.
- (10) Q. At the parish?
- (11) A. At the parish.
- (12) Q. Were you involved in the convalescent home?
- (13) A. I was.
- (15) Q. You were acting as chaplain there?
- (16) A. I was acting as chaplain.
- (17) Q. May I ask, was there someone else there, or did you replace a chaplain, or what?
- (19) A. No, I didn't replace a chaplain. They were looking for a chaplain.
- (21) Q. So there was nobody there?
- (22) A. There was nobody there.
- (23) Q. So you were now the first. You appeared?
- (24) A. I appeared.

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- (1) Q. And you did that. You lived at St. Mary's?
- (2) A. At St. Mary's.
- (4) Q. Do you recall at that time living at St. Mary's who was the pastor?
- (5) A. Father DeMarco, Peter DeMarco.
- (7) Q. Who else -- is Father DeMarco still around?
- (8) A. I believe so. I know so. He is an associate pastor at St. Teresa's parish in Trumbull, I believe.
- (12) Q. I think I went to school with him. He has a harelip, does he?
- (13) A. Yes.
- (15) Q. Pete DeMarco. I remember him. He went to that homosexual school.
- (17) In any event, at that time you lived there?
- (18) MR. GOLGER: I didn't know you had to go to school for that.
- (20) Q. You were at the Pious the XII, was it, or the II?
- (21) A. John Paul II.
- (23) Q. John Paul II. You were there for a month?
- (24) A. Yes.

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- (1) A. I was there for a month and a half.
- (2) Q. Then what happened?
- (3) A. The deacon of the parish, Deacon Bob Becker, came to me and told me that two boys had said that I had put my hand on their knee. When he told me this, I got in contact with Monsignor Cusack and told him that this was the charge that was being made.
- (8) Q. Now, let's go back a moment. Your duties, as I understand them, at that particular time was to act as chaplain at the nursing home?
- (11) A. Yes.
- (13) Q. The convalescent hospital. Now, you indicated to me that you were staying at the parish?
- (15) A. I was in residence there.
- (17) Q. Now, what did you do at the parish? In other words, did you have any activities or any duties at the parish outside of being a resident at the parish?
- (20) A. During the summertime, you're asked to be more involved in parish work. So I was doing more parish work in St. Mary's than I would normally do during the year, during the summertime.
- (25) A. Yes.

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- (1) Q. Let's hold up. As I understand it, you went there during the summertime?
- (2) A. Yes.
- (4) Q. So that in other words, when you started, when you first went to St. Mary's, you were there and it was summer?
- (5) A. It was the summer.
- (7) Q. You went there as a resident --
- (8) A. As a resident.
- (10) Q. -- specifically, and you engaged in your duties at the convalescent hospital. Let's take a moment and let's go to the convalescent hospital. What were your duties at the convalescent hospital?
- (13) A. To visit all the people that were there, to bring communion to them, to hear confessions.
- (17) Q. Did you say, for example, did you say Mass there on a regular basis?
- (18) A. Not on a regular basis. I celebrated Mass there maybe once, because when these accusations came forward, I needed to get in contact with Monsignor Cusack to see how we could handle this situation.
- (22) Q. Let's get before that. When you went

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- (1) there -- in other words, this is -- I say obviously. I assume from the name it's a Catholic convalescent hospital?
- (2) A. Yes.
- (5) Q. Was it run by the diocese or independently? I believe it's a diocesan convalescent home?
- (6) A. (No response.)
- (8) Q. They had a chapel there?
- (9) A. There was a chapel.
- (11) Q. They did not have daily Mass?
- (12) A. Mass was being provided at that time by other priests who would come in to take care of that responsibility for me.
- (14) Q. So there was a daily Mass?
- (15) A. Yes.
- (17) Q. Being appointed chaplain as your prime responsibility at that time, you were not to undertake the celebrating of the daily Mass?
- (18) A. As the ministry was starting out, and the number of people at the convalescent home wasn't that great -- in fact, they were just starting to fill the convalescent home at the time. So there were daily liturgies that were being done, and there was a sister that was

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- (1) responsible for that, and as we were going to begin the schedule of regular Masses, that's when these things occurred.
- (3) Q. So the fact is that up until that time there were not regular Masses, and obviously the sister wasn't saying the Mass?
- (4) A. No.
- (6) Q. At least not in this century?
- (7) A. No.
- (10) Q. Basically, in other words, there was some liturgy going on, and it was the intention, at least of the diocese as far as you know, and your own intention, that you would establish, it would be established that there would be a chaplain, a daily Mass, and there would be full services, actually, provided to the residents of the convalescent hospital as far as the satisfaction of their catholicity was concerned? Is what you were going to do?
- (18) A. Yes.
- (20) Q. Now, let's get back. You said that there was Father DeMarco, who was the pastor at St. Mary's. You were there as a resident. You mentioned a deacon.
- (24) A. Yes.

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