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The following account, dictated by Father Welsh to Suzanne Kelly on June 26, 2003, is of Father Vincent Welsh's handwritten notes of a September 4, 2002 meeting of Monsignor William Lynn and Father Vincent Welsh with Father Edward Avery. This account was prepared on June 26, 2003, at the request of Mr. James Bock, for the Archdiocesan Review Board.

At the beginning of the meeting, Monsignor Lynn informed Father Avery that James had called around June 19, 2002 and that Monsignor Lynn had returned James's call. In the telephone conversation, Monsignor Lynn and James reviewed the situation noting that Father Avery denied the allegation and that when James met with Father Avery, Father Avery also denied the allegation. James noted that Father Avery did deny the allegation when they met. Monsignor Lynn said that James still believes he was abused by Father Avery.

Monsignor Lynn related that James claims there was underage drinking at the shore and when he was a DJ at dances. He claims that Father Avery wrestled with kids in the loft at the shore house. Monsignor Lynn told Father Avery that James's mother saw Father Avery as a DJ at a party and since her son claimed to have been abused after assisting as a DJ at a party, she was concerned that the same behavior with underage drinking, etc., has continued. Monsignor Lynn said that James's brother, John, confirmed underage drinking with five to six boys at the shore when he (John) was 14 or 15 years old. Father Avery responded that parents were always present and that James's father was one of the adults present (at the shore). Father Avery also claimed that the boys stole the alcohol.

Monsignor Lynn related John's story of wrestling in the loft of the house when one boy was injured and Father Avery was allegedly drinking. Father Avery responded that he was not even present when it happened. Monsignor Lynn related another incident when John claimed that Father Avery gave him and another boy, Friend 2, scotch. Father Avery responded that he never drank scotch and that the boys arrived drunk at the rectory.

Monsignor Lynn informed Father Avery that James has requested a meeting with him next Thursday. Monsignor Lynn said that he did not know the purpose of the meeting but again asked Father Avery if he denied giving the boys alcohol. Father Avery responded that he denied giving the boys alcohol. He indicated that the boys broke into his house once during senior week but that he was never alone in the house with them. His (Father Avery's) mother and brother were always there. Monsignor Lynn asked Father Avery if he wrestled with them. Father Avery responded that he only tickled them. Monsignor Lynn stated that one is claiming abuse and the other claims corrupting the morals of a minor. Monsignor Lynn said that he does not know what James will do.

Monsignor Lynn indicated to Father Avery that he was told no more DJ parties. Father Avery responded that he only does adult, senior citizen, parties with no kids. Monsignor Lynn indicated that it had to stop. Father Avery responded affirmatively. Father Avery indicated that no kids have accompanied him to DJ parties in recent years. Monsignor Lynn asked Father Avery what had happened when he met with James at Saint John Vianney. Father Avery responded that he basically listened to him. Monsignor Lynn commented that he had no record of the meeting and only knew from James that Father Avery had denied the allegation. Father Avery said, "Yes, because it never happened."

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Father Avery related that James's parents were upset about there son, James, dating a divorced woman who was killed in a car accident when James was driving. Father Avery stated that he has kept in contact with some kids from his parish assignments and nothing ever happened. Monsignor Lynn asked if James's father was home at the house when they stayed? Father Avery stated that his father was there and sometimes his whole family. His (Father Avery's) mother and brother stayed downstairs and they (the boys) stayed in the loft. Monsignor Lynn said he would have to wait until Thursday to see what else James wanted. Monsignor Lynn's main concern was Father Avery's continuing his DJ activities that were the context of James's claim of abuse. Monsignor Lynn indicated that Father Avery agreed to stop his DJ activities and that he will relay this information to James. Monsignor Lynn commented that we will have to see what James has to say.

Father Avery recounted one time James accompanied him to a DJ job at Smokey Joe's. Father Avery denied any inappropriate behavior. Monsignor Lynn asked if Father Avery denied any physical activity with James. Father Avery responded "Yes, absolutely." Father Avery said he is still friendly with some of James's friends. Monsignor Lynn asked if these people would be able to verify that Father Avery never gave them alcohol. Father Avery said he believed so.

Father Avery related visiting James after an accident that killed James's girl friend. Father Avery said that he had a friendship with James's parents. Father Avery said that James's mother called him when her husband died. Father Avery said he hadn't seen James since his father's death. Monsignor Lynn asked whether the allegation had come after that. Father Avery indicated that it had.

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