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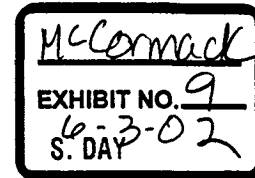
M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Fr. John McCormack

FROM: Sr. Catherine Mulkerrin

RE: Allegation by minor pertaining to Fr. Matte

DATE: May 18, 1994



On April 20, 1994, [REDACTED], at the suggestion of Father Moynihan from St. Michael's, Lowell called CEM about her 17 years old grandson, [REDACTED], currently a Junior at Lowell High. She had been living for about six weeks with information given to her by her daughter, [REDACTED], who is [REDACTED] mother.

[REDACTED] is one of three children; his brother is 22 years old and his sister, who is in college is almost 20. Their father committed suicide eight years ago. That event and all that preceded it, e.g. his refusal to take medications and his separation from [REDACTED] severely affected the older two children and to a lesser degree [REDACTED] because he was younger. Stability has been provided by their mother, who receives counseling and by the grandparents ([REDACTED] who live downstairs. [REDACTED] works in a nursing home, doing direct patient care.

[REDACTED] (second husband a drug addict long gone) noticed that [REDACTED] had not been himself. He lost his after school job and has stayed out of school, either not getting up or pretending to attend. She took him to a medical doctor in December. [REDACTED] said when they left the office, "We have to go someplace and we have to talk. I want to take someone to court". It was then in the car and at a restaurant that she learned that [REDACTED] had been molested by Father Matte when he was in grades 6, 7, 8. [REDACTED] attended St. Louis de France School, was an altar boy, and worked in the rectory.

In two conversations that day, CEM reinforced the need to obtain help for the boy and also indicated that a therapist would need to report such incidents. (The children connect therapy with their father's death, the two sons especially; the daughter is better off, because at one time she was hospitalized and had to deal with things.) Anonymously [REDACTED] was going to seek information from DSS.)

On April 22, CEM talked directly with [REDACTED] mother. [REDACTED] feels that the whole thing is very much on [REDACTED] mind. She narrated much of the above, but also added that [REDACTED] asked her in the restaurant, "You do believe me don't you?". She gave no details to CEM of what kind of abuse took place, though [REDACTED] seems to have shared this with her. He did say Father Matte did

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not rape him. [REDACTED] answered the rectory bell, ran the dishwasher, etc. Father Matte would keep him, tell him to come up to his room because he wanted to talk to him. [REDACTED] felt that Fr. Matte had other kids in his office for the same reasons. He says that he knows of two other boys abused by Fr. Matte, who also come from dysfunctional homes.

[REDACTED] has a girlfriend, but he "feels so dirty". When he had the physical (December), he would not let the doctor examine him. [REDACTED] now can see why [REDACTED] was in a terrible mood at his eighth grade graduation and refused to have his picture taken with the priest.

[REDACTED] is very aware that her son should be in counseling. It would be a relief if a therapist made a report. Either she or her mother were going to seek further advice the following Monday from the District Attorney's Office.

April 25 - [REDACTED] had been in touch with DSS and/or the DA's Office. It was explained that a team would work with [REDACTED]. The DSS office knows that the person has had all duties removed; the comment back was, "So there is evidence somewhere . . ." (I do not think any names were used)

May 13 - CEM called [REDACTED]. The DSS/DA need permission from the family to come out. However, [REDACTED] wants no part of reporting, or of counseling. If the events were going on in the present, DSS could step in. [REDACTED] has not talked with his grandmother about the abuse and she is looking for a good opportunity to have the kind of "sharing they used to have." CEM is looking for any material appropriate for a teenage boy to read. It is a positive that he shared with his mother (CEM); but the mother feels he is a depressed young man.

CEM: This may be "by the books", but it feels like a second victimization. The burden is put on a minor all over again and now on his family. Broken record by CEM: It has come to our attention that a priest stationed here between 19__ and 19__ may have molested children. Please contact . . . (Parish bulletin)

CEM:tt