LALT FOUR





CHANCERY OFFICE 153 ASH STREET

P.O. BOX 310 MANCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03105-0310

DIOCESE	OF MANC	HESTER September 14, 1983
PER	SONAI	_/CONFIDENTIAL
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		TESTIMONY TAKEN FROM
		BY REVEREND FRANCIS J. CHRISTIAN, CHANCELLOR
I.	Α.	Full name:
	В.	Date of birth and age:
-	С.	Names of Parents:
	D.	Diocese
		MANCHESTER
	Ε.	Domicile of Parent:
	·F.	Present Address:
	The	petitioner was asked to take the following oath and did so.
	Ι.	SWEAR TO TELL THE TRUTH, ONLY THE TRUTH, AND
	THE	WHOLE TRUTH, AS I KNOW IT BEFORE GOD AND MY CONSCIENCE, AND TO TELL I KNOW FULLY, COMPLETELY, AND FAITHFULLY.
II.	Des	cribe your seminary training.

I ENTERED SEMINARY IN SEMINARY IN STUDIED THERE FOR TWO YEARS AND THEN ENTERED SEMINARY IN SEMINARY IN WHERE I FINISHED MY UNIVERSITY, SPECIALIZING IN PHILOSOPHY.

IN , I ENTERED THE UNIVERSITY OF IN , WHILE RESIDING AT . I STUDIED THERE FOR FOUR YEARS. IN APRIL OF . WHILE AT . I WAS ORDAINED A DEACON. I CAME BACK TO NEW HAMPSHIRE AT THE END OF MY THEOLOGICAL STUDIES IN JULY OF . I SERVED FOR ONE YEAR AS A DEACON AT . PARISH IN , AND WAS THEN ORDAINED TO THE PRIESTHOOD ON

II. Did you have any major and serious doubts about your vocation while you were in the Seminary? If so, please describe.

I HAD TWO SERIOUS PROBLEMS, AND TO THIS DAY I AM NOT SURE AS TO IF AND HOW THEY ARE INTERRELATED. FIRST OF ALL, I ALWAYS HAD A DIFFICULT PROBLEM IN RELATING TO PEOPLE. THIS PROBLEM WENT BACK AS FAR AS I CAN REMEMBER, AND WAS EVEN PART OF MY LIFE IN HIGH SCHOOL. I WAS ALWAYS ALONE, AND DID NOT FEEL THE NEED FOR ANY CLOSE FRIENDSHIPS OF ANY SORT. WHILE I HAD NUMEROUS ACQUAINTANCES AND SOCIAL CONTACTS, I WAS NEVER FULLY FRIENDLY WITH ANYONE TO THE POINT OF SHARING MY INNERMOST THOUGHTS AND FEELINGS WITH THEM. WHILE I WAS ALONE MUCH OF THE TIME I MUST STATE THAT AT THAT POINT I NEVER FELT LONELY. I SIMPLY DID NOT FEEL THE NEED FOR ANY CLOSE RELATIONSHIPS. THE REPUTATION, AS A RESULT, OF BEING A LONER, AND I WAS OFTEN QUESTIONED AND EVEN REPROACHED ON THIS MATTER BY THE STAFF OF THE SEMINARIES THAT I ATTENDED. I WAS CONSTANTLY BEING ENCOURAGED BY MY SPIRITUAL DIRECTORS TO FORM CLOSER FRIENDSHIPS. I FELT THEY WERE CREATING A NEED THAT DID NOT EXIST AND SIMPLY WENT THROUGH THE MOTIONS OF TRYING TO APPEAR MORE SOCIABLE. ALL IN ALL, I FELT COMFORTABLE IN MY ALONENESS. I DID BEGIN TO WONDER WHETHER THIS CHARACTER TRAIT WOULD AFFECT MY MINISTRY AS A PRIEST, BUT I NEVER REALLY SAW IT AS AN IMPEDIMENT.

THE SECOND PROBLEM MAY HAVE BEEN IN SOME WAY RESPONSIBLE FOR MY LACK OF COMFORT WITH OTHER PEOPLE. FROM HIGH SCHOOL YEARS ON, UNTIL MY SEMINARY IN I HAD A SERIOUS PROBLEM OF SEXUAL IDENTITY. WHILE IN HIGH SCHOOL I HAD BEEN SEXUALLY MOLESTED BY TWO PRIESTS. ONE INSTANCE INVOLVED GENITAL MANIPULATION, BUT THE OTHER INVOLVED COMPLETE HOMOSEXUAL RELATIONS. I FELT TERRIBLY GUILTY ABOUT THESE RELATIONSHIPS. I DIDN'T WANT TO ENGAGE IN THEM, BUT DID NOT KNOW HOW TO SAY "NO" TO A PRIEST. CONSEQUENTLY, I BEGAN TO QUESTION WHETHER OR NOT I WAS IN FACT HOMOSEXUAL MYSELF. THIS CAUSED ME A TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF UNCERTAINTY AND PAIN. IT ALSO AFFECTED MY ABILITY TO RELATE TO GIRLS OF MY OWN AGE. IT WAS ONLY AFTER AN EXTENDED PERIOD OF COUNSELING WHILE AT THAT I CAME TO THE REALIZATION THAT I WAS NOT HOMOSEXUAL. AT THAT POINT, HOWEVER, BECAUSE I TRULY FELT I WANTED TO BE A PRIEST, I WAS UNABLE TO EXPLORE IN ANY SERIOUS WAY THE QUESTION OF MY RELATIONSHIP WITH WOMEN.

(I asked whether this lack of effective experience with women caused him to question his stability to lead a celibate life).

I MUST ADMIT THAT DURING THEOLOGY, ONCE I HAD SOLVED MY SEXUAL IDENTITY, I DID QUESTION WHETHER I TRULY UNDERSTOOD WHAT I WAS GIVING UP. I TRIED TO WORK THIS THROUGH WITH MY SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR, AND I NOW BELIEVE THAT I HAD RESOLVED THE PROBLEM ON AN INTELLECTUAL BASIS, BUT GIVEN MY BACKGROUND WAS INCAPABLE OF RESOLVING IT ON A MORE PERSONAL LEVEL.

IV. What was your state of mind concerning the priesthood at the time of your ordination?

I WAS QUITE EXCITED. I HAD ENJOYED MY EXPERIENCE AS A DEACON IN THE PARISH AND WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO THE NEXT STEP.

(I asked new methor, in light of his previous problems, he had any serious reservations about ordination).

I MUST SAY THAT AT THE TIME I HAD SIMPLY PUT THOSE PROBLEMS OFF TO THE SIDE. THEY DID NOT SEEM LIKE MAJOR OBSTACLES TO ME AT THAT PARTICULAR POINT EVEN THOUGH THEY HAD NOT BEEN COMPLETELY RESOLVED.

V. What were your assignments up to the time you left the active priesthood?

I WAS ASSIGNED TO PARISH IN IN IN FOR A PERIOD OF THREE MONTHS. I THEN WAS ASSIGNED TO PARISH IN ACQUIRE SKILLS IN THE LANGUAGE AND CULTURE SO THAT I MIGHT WORK WITH THE PAPOSTOLATE OF THE DIOCESE. THESE STUDIES LASTED SIX MONTHS. I THEN WAS ASSIGNED TO THAT WORK AS OF SERVED IN IT FOR ABOUT A YEAR AND A HALF, UNTIL I REQUESTED A LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

VI. What was your state of mind during your years of priesthood? Did you have any problems, for example, saying Mass, reciting the Divine Office, administering the sacraments, etc.?

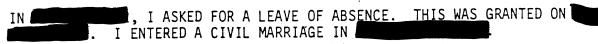
I CANNOT RECALL ANY MAJOR PROBLEMS. I MORE OR LESS ENJOYED MY WORK. I FELT I WAS DOING A FAIRLY GOOD JOB. FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE I HAD BEGUN TO DEVELOP A FRIENDSHIP. IT WAS WITH A PRIEST ABOUT MY AGE, AND WITH HIM I BEGAN TO SHARE SOME OF MY THOUGHTS AND FEELINGS. THIS HELPED ME TO RELATE BETTER TO OTHER PEOPLE AS WELL. I ALSO BEGAN TO SEE A WHOLE DIMENSION OF LIFE IN REGARD TO FRIENDSHIP WHICH I HAD NEVER MISSED BEFORE. MY PRAYER LIFE WAS SOMEWHAT ON THE WEAK SIDE, AND I DID NOT HAVE A REGULAR CONFESSOR. I KNEW I SHOULD DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS, BUT SIMPLY NEVER FOUND TIME OR ENERGY FOR IT.

VII. Give in detail your reasons for leaving the active priesthood.

DURING THE TIME I WAS WORKING IN THE WOMAN APPROXIMATELY MY OWN AGE WHO WAS A VOLUNTEER IN THAT DIOCESAN WORK. OVER A PERIOD OF A YEAR AND A HALF WE BECAME VERY GOOD FRIENDS. AT FIRST OUR FRIENDSHIP WAS SIMPLY ON THE LEVEL OF THAT OF THE REST OF THE GROUP. BUT I SOON DISCOVERED THAT SHE WAS SOMEONE WITH WHOM I COULD SHARE MY THOUGHTS AND FEELINGS ON A DEEP LEVEL. SHE LISTENED TO ME AND ENCOURAGED ME AS I HAD NEVER BEFORE EXPERIENCED. ALL OF A SUDDEN, WITHOUT ANY REAL FORE-THOUGHT, I DISCOVERED MY NEED FOR A CONTINUING AND EVEN DEEPER RELATIONSHIP WITH THIS WOMAN. I MUST SAY THAT MY REALIZATION OF THIS NEED WAS TOTALLY UNEXPECTED. I HAD NEVER REALLY NEEDED ANY INTIMATE RELATIONSHIP BEFORE, AND I WAS SURPRISED NOW BY THE DEPTH OF MY NEED. THE MORE THE RELATIONSHIP DEVELOPED THE MORE IT INFLUENCED MY WHOLE LIFE. OTHER PEOPLE, INCLUDING MY MOTHER, SAW A CHANGE FOR THE BETTER IN ME. OBVIOUSLY, I WAS VERY CONFUSED

BECAUSE I SAW THIS AS A CONTRADICTION TO MY PRIESTHOOD. I BEGAN COUNSELING AT THE CLERGY AND RELIGIOUS COUNSELING SERVICE PROVIDED BY THE DIOCESE IN JUNE OF 1982. I WANTED TO CLARIFY FOR MYSELF WHAT WAS HAPPENING. I HAD WEEKLY SESSIONS FOR FOUR MONTHS, THEN OCCASIONAL SESSIONS FOR ANOTHER FOUR MONTHS. DURING THIS TIME AND AFTER, AS I GRAPPLED WITH MY LIFE, I BEGAN TO SEE CLEARLY FOR THE FIRST TIME THE NEED FOR FRIENDSHIP AND LOVE WHICH I HAD NEVER BEFORE UNDERSTOOD. IT IS MY FIRM BELIEF NOW THAT PERHAPS BECAUSE OF MY SEXUAL IDENTITY CRISIS I NEVER HAD THE EMOTIONAL STABILITY OR THE EXPERIENCE OF HUMAN FRIENDSHIP WHICH WOULD HAVE ENABLED ME TO MAKE AN INFORMED DECISION FOR THE PRIESTHOOD. IT IS MY BELIEF THAT MY DECISION TO BE A PRIEST, WHILE SINCERE, WAS MADE WITH INADEQUATE SELF UNDERSTANDING AND EXPERIENCE OF THE FULL HUMAN DIMENSIONS OF LIFE.

VIII. When, and under what circumstances, did you leave the active priesthood?



- IX. What positions have you held since leaving the priesthood?

 - X. What has been your religious practice since leaving the priesthood?
 - I ATTEND MASS ON A WEEKLY BASIS, AS DOES MY WIFE. WE BOTH HAVE A CONTINUING STRONG COMMITMENT TO OUR FAITH AND THE CHURCH, AND FEEL THE DEEP NEED TO BE RECONCILED FULLY AND ESPECIALLY TO RECEIVE THE SACRAMENTS.
- XI. What, precisely, are you requesting of the Holy See?
 - I AM SEEKING A DISPENSATION FROM ALL THE OBLIGATIONS OF THE PRIESTHOOD, INCLUDING CELIBACY.
- XII. Do you agree not to reveal any arrangements the Holy See might make on your behalf, including a subsequent marriage, and to follow the specific directions of the Holy See?
 - I DO. I UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE A RIGHT TO A GOOD REPUTATION AND CAN REVEAL SUCH ARRANGEMENTS TO MY FAMILY AND CLOSE FRIENDS.



SECRETARIAT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE AND CANONICAL AFFAIRS

Diocese of Manchester, 153 Ash Street, P.O. Box 310, Manchester, NH 03105-0310

603-669-3100

March 12, 1992

PERSONAL

MEMORANDUM RE

In December of 1991, in response to his request, I met with to discuss the psychological and marital problems he was having.

As a result of having been sexually molested over a period of some years, both as a high school student and as a seminarian by Father Gerald Chalifour (we know in fact that Father Chalifour did have problems in this area at one time in his ministry, although recent testing has shown that he has been free of such problems for more than ten years) told me that he did not in any way blame the Church as a whole or the Bishop for Father Chalifour's problems. He understood that the Diocese was unaware of them at the time. However, those experiences had affected him deeply, and he was now having to deal with them at significant cost. He was wondering if the Diocese could be of assistance to him and his wife in this regard.

I subsequently discussed the matter with the Bishop, who agreed that we would fund two years of counseling for and his wife, with the clear understanding that we were doing this not because we felt ourselves legally or morally obliged to do so but purely out of a sense of charity. Our diocesan attorney, Bradford Cook, suggested that a waiver be signed by and his wife, which would release the Diocese from any subsequent responsiblity in view of the help they were receiving from the Diocese.

That signed waiver is attached.

Date: March 10, 1992

(Msgr.) Francis J. Christian

RELEASE

For and in consideration of the payment of \$7000.00
hereby received by us, the undersigned and
of
, freely and voluntarily release the Roman
Catholic Bishop of Manchester, a corporation sole, its agents,
employees, representatives, and clergy of and from any and all
actions, harm, and damages which may have occurred from the
beginning of the world to the date of this release specifically
involving but not limited to incidents of physical, sexual,
emotional abuse which allegedly may have resulted in physical or
psychological problems and any and all other matters or damages.
his release is given freely by us and is intended to run to all
agencies and agents of the Roman Catholic Church.
It is acknowledged that the making of this payment is in no
way an admission of liability. The payment and all matters
involved in this matter shall be kept confidential.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have freely executed this release,
aware that it is giving up certain legal rights, this 12^{10} day of
<u>March</u> , 1992.
France M. Morasse
trancum Mi Morasse

UNTY OF REW HAMPSHIRE	
The foregoing instrument was day of, 1992 b	s acknowledged before me this 12th
	Maraunta Dan T Nøtary Public/ Justice of the Peace
STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE COUNTY OF	
The foregoing instrument was day of March, 1992 b	acknowledged before me this 12T4
	Notary Public/ Justice of the Peace



Rev. Francis Christian Diocesan Administration Building 153 Ash Street Manchester, New Hampshire

Dear Frank.

Several years ago, when I was applying for laicization, I shared with you—and we used as part of the grounds for laicization—the fact that I was sexually molested by priests during my teen—age years. The priests involved were Eugene Belanger and Gerald Chalifour.

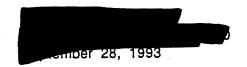
These experiences were very troubling for me, and continue to affect me in my relationships. They also consequently affect my wife. We have been undergoing counseling to try to overcome some of the ramifications of my under-developed ability to relate on an affective basis, and I feel that I and we are making progress. Beyond that, I think that I am finally ready to face the fact that I was sexually abused and seek counselling to deal with that specific issue.

All of this is costly. Since the source of the problem is the sexual molestation that I experienced at the hands of priests in my formative years, I feel that it is right to ask the Diocese to accept financial responsibility for the counselling that my wife and I have already undergone as well as for future counselling.

I am directing all of this to you because we have already discussed the molestation. It is a painful subject, and I would like it to be addressed discretely. Would you please take care of bringing this letter to the attention of those who need to be concerned with its contents.

I thank you in advance for the attention that you will give to this matter, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely, 3500 3500 33500 33500 33500 33500



Bishop Leo O'Neil
Diocesan Administration Building
153 Ash Street
P. O. Box 310
Manchester, New Hampshire 03105

Dear Bishop O'Neil,

I am in recovery from the sexual abuse that I suffered at the hands of the Revs. Eugene Belanger and Gerald Chalifour in the 1960's. Although I feel that I am making progress, recovery is not as fast as I would have hoped. I appreciate the financial support the Diocese has given me to help offset the cost of my healing.

I spoke with Frank Christian yesterday afternoon and shared the following information with him. My therapist, as you may know, is in My therapy was expanded last year to include weekly group therapy (a men's sexual abuse recovery group). The funds you provided me with two years ago are depleted, and although health insurance paid part of the cost of therapy for a while, our present carrier pays nothing toward it. Group therapy costs \$35.00 per week, and private therapy is \$65.00 per session. The cost is about \$300 per month, and it is going to be very difficult for us to continue to make those payments.

I would ask for the Diocese's continued help in the following manner. I would like to submit my receipts to the Diocese at the end of each month, and ask you to reimburse my therapy expenses. (I do not intend to submit mileage or occasional babysitting expenses.) Perhaps the Diocese could approach Fr. Chalifour and ask him to share in paying the cost; I have thought of approaching him myself, but I do not think I am ready to approach him yet.

Let me stress that I appreciate the help and support that the Diocese has offered me so far, and that it is not easy for me to make this request at a time when I know that diocesan funds are limited. But I have to ask for my own well-being and that of my wife and children--my healing is their healing too, and my growth is their growth.

I thank you for your consideration of this letter.

Sincerely,



October 5, 1993

PERSONAL/CONFIDENTIAL



Dear

Bishop O'Neil has asked me to respond to your letter to him of September 28, 1993.

He is sensitive to your situation, and would like to be of assistance to you insofar as diocesan funds permit. As a result, he has instructed me to provide you with the enclosed to further assist you with your continuing counseling. This gift in no way changes the provisions of the legal document that we signed with you several years ago, nor does it commit the Diocese to any future assistance. Given the real need you are experiencing, however, we are happy to assist you.

Assuring you of my prayerful best wishes to you and your family, I $_{\mbox{\scriptsize am}}$

Sincerely in Christ,

(Msgr.) Francis J. Christian Secretary Chancellor

Enclosure

MEMORANDUM OF INTERVIEW

PERSON	INTERY	VIEW	VED:
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PLACE OF INTERVIEW:

ATTORNEY SOLOMON'S OFFICE

LONDONDERRY, NH

DATE:

August 14, 2002

PERSONS INTERVIEWING:

DET. PETER FAVREAU, MANCHESTER PD

INV. ALLISON VACHON, AGO APV

IN ATTENDANCE:

COLLEEN MINARD, PARALEGAL

RE:

FATHER CHALIFOUR

Okay. Today's date is August 14th, 2002. It's approximately 5:18 p.m.. I am Detective Peter Favreau of the Manchester, New Hampshire Police Department. I'm with Allison Vachon, an investigator with the Attorney General's Office of New Hampshire. And we are currently at Attorney Peter Solomon's ah, law firm office in Londonderry, New Hampshire with about incidents involving Father Gerald Chalifour ah, that date back to the 1960s. Um and f you wouldn't mind introducing yourself first and ah, just ah, by name and, and date of birth and we'll get started.

52.

PF

Okay. Now, we'll all forget that there's a tape on and we can all just talk. Okay. Basically, what I want you to do is bring us back um, to your childhood. Tell us about yourself, where you grew up, your family, a little bit, a brief history um, of your growing up and um, your first contact with Father Chalifour and the whole thing.

All right. Well, in growing up ah, most of my family, my father's from my mother's um, from Mass. Like, my grandfather, when he immigrated here moved to and ah, we moved quite a bit as kids. This um, this, I have six brothers and sisters. We eventually moved from Mass up to Nashua where I attended Catholic schools for a few years. Um, I don't know if it was a mutual thing or, you know, if they threw me out of the Catholic schools or I, I just ah, I eventually started going to public school. But, like I said, growing up, you know, church was a part of our, you know, was part of our family you know. My father was a protestant, my mother was a staunch Catholic and ah, us kids were all brought up in the Catholic religion. Um, shooting ahead I guess um, I, I'm not gonna sit here and tell you that I was a, an angel by any stretch of the

imagination, you know. I was, I was a troubled kid. And it was when we moved to Hudson and my mom got, you know, involved with, with St. Catherine's um, I don't know if she was part of the parish council or, or if she just, you know, helped with the fund raising. She, she, to this day is still part of St. Catherine's. Has been ah, quite active in, in the fund raising, getting the new parish church built.

PF How old were you when you moved to Hudson?

I think I was, well when I first moved to Hudson I was ah, ah, I think I was like in the 5th grade.

PF What brought you here to New Hampshire?

Um, my mother's work.

PF Okay.

She's a, a don't know, one company or another. It seemed like after she'd have a kid, it'd never be too long before, you know, somebody else would be pounding on our door trying to get her to come to work so it was like that the door the day she got the job. Some plates come flying down the hallway saying, she's losing it. And, and, but it was a particular type of glassware that didn't break so I guess she was demonstrating it to the kids as we're coming in the door. At least that's what I think she was doing.

PF Yeah.

Ah, so as I said um --

PF I guess, I guess, when you moved to Hudson, did you immediately begin attending St. Catherine's pretty much right away when you moved to New Hampshire or?

Well, no, actually St. Cath-, I think, I think St. Catherine's wasn't even built when we first moved to, I think we went to St. John's for like a year. And then, you know, St. Catherine's was built and it was right, you know, walking distance from our, from our ah, development so.

PF Do you remember ah, when you first began at St. Catherine's who the ah, pastor was, who the priests were?

Father Chalifour.

PF He was already there.

Yeah.

PF Okay.

He was the first one.

PF Was he at the other church as well or was he --

No.

PF -- he just ah, you met him first at St. Catherine's?

Yeah.

PF Okay. Tell us about ah, I guess how you first met him or how you got to know him and, and was it your parents that met him first or was it you or?

My, no my mother did definitely, yeah. And, and I guess what happened was that ah, you know like I said, it was kinda of a dysfunctional home so ah, you know, I was always pretty much the black sheep so I don't know how it came about. Whether you know, because she spent a lot of time at the church that, you know, they were talking about how many kids she has, you know, this one and that one. And, and, but somehow it came up that he needed help building a, or revamping a room in the rectory. Ah, it was an old farmhouse with the horsehair plaster and everything so um, my mom brought, you know, all I know is one day my mom said come on, you're gonna work at the rectory. Brought me over and dropped me off.

PF How old were you then? Do you remember?

Between 15 and 16 I guess.

PF Now, you went over there and, with the impression that you were gonna do some work over there. Had you already met him or ah, was this your first meeting with him, do you remember?

No, I mean, other than seeing him in church, you know.

PF Okay.

You know, maybe saying hi on the way out the, you know, they stand at the door.

PF Right.

AV Right.

But other than that, no.

PF Um, tell us about what happened. What you can remember that day.

We worked most of the day, um, stripping the old horsehair plaster off the walls. I don't know if you're familiar with it but it's a nasty job. And ah.

PF Now is it just you, you and Father Chalifour?

Just me and him, yeah.

PF Okay.

And, and um, afterwards he got in, he, he went and took a shower and, and asked me if I wanted to clean up before I went home. You know, like I said, this horsehair plaster was everywhere so, you know, I didn't think nothing of it so I went and took a shower. Um, when I came out, he wasn't around. And then he called me ah, into the front of the rectory which, you know, once I walked in and found out it was his bedroom. Ah, said his shoulders hurt or something and asked me if I would, you know, rub his sh-, some witch hazel on his shoulders. Ah, I did. Um, then he started rubbing my shoulders and, and ah, just talking.

PF Now you came around the corner, he called you into the room. You come around. Is he standing there, is he wearing any clothes or is he ah --

He had a towel on.

PF Okay. And you were dressed or were you just getting out of the shower.

I think I just got out of the shower.

Okay. Did he want you, he wants you to rub witch hazel on him. Um, he in turn begins, he begins to rub your shoulders and then what happened?

Um, he just started rubbing my legs and talking and saying that ah, you know, he wasn't queer and, he asked me if I would perform oral sex on him and I said, you know, no, you know. By that time he was rubbing me and, and um, he performed oral sex on me and, and ah, like I said, all the time he just kept saying over and over again, you know, this doesn't make you queer. This ah.

PF Okay. So that, that ends and what did he say to you?

Nothing.

PF

PF Not a word? Did you end up leaving at that point or?

Yes.

PF Okay. Did you go home?

Yes.

PF Okay. And he doesn't say a word. You just walk out and, and that's it. Okay. When's the next time that you see him?

A couple of days later. When my mother drove me back there.

PF To do some more work? Okay. And you hadn't told anybody. Um, (unintelligible) anything going on.

She didn't know there was anything going on but I mean, you know, I think, like I said was, I'm pretty sure they wanted me back the next day but I didn't go and then, you know, like a couple of days I think, maybe went by and then, you know, like I didn't have a choice, you know. She, she said get in the car and go so, I got in the car and went.

PF Okay. You go over there a couple days later.

The same thing happens.

PF Did you work most of the day?

Some of it, yeah.

PF Okay. Does he bring up what happened a couple of days before at all? Doesn't, doesn't even mention it. Okay. You go through the work day. Um, same thing happens after?

Um, basically, I think.

PF Okay. How about um, when you say basically, does it, just have oral sex again?

Yes.

PF Okay. Um, does he say anything to you when that's over? Do you guys talk about it at all?

AV Does he say anything like don't tell anyone or did you have a conversation while this is happening?

I don't think he, I think he felt that he didn't have to say anything. That's the impression I got.

AV Umm hmm.

You know part of that could be, you know, I've come a long way from a 15 year old kid.

Right. So you leave? PF I leave. Do you tell anybody? PF No. Ever? You told way, way later? I realize that eventually that you did tell PF somebody but in those years --No, no. -- as a child, you ever tell anybody? PF Um, it, what happened was that after this incident um, I was just out of ah, out of control. You know, um, like got thrown out of school, got thrown out of the house. Um, they ship me out to to stay with an uncle and I think I stayed out there for like a couple of months and then my older sister was getting married and wanted me home for the wedding so my mother said that I could come home. Um, I don't really know how long I was home. I just remember one night I walked in. My mother called me into the dining room and, and said, so did something happen with Father Chalifour and, you know, I just said yeah. I didn't tell her what, I just, you know, I just said yeah. So then, I don't know if it was that night or a couple days later.' I, I'm really not sure of the, the time span. I was brought to um, a parish council meeting. It was at, I believe the head of the parish council at the times house. It's on Musquash Road in Hudson. I can tell you that. Do you know, do you know who that was? PF I think it was Richard Dolbec. How, how old are you at this point? PF 16. So you went out, there were those two incidents. PF Well, there was actually, there was a third one. PF Okay. And what happened was that after I got thrown out of my house, you know, I went, you know, it was pretty common thing by that time so, you know, I'd go hang out at a buddy's house for a while and just, you know, come back home, go up to my room. Um, but this time it was, you know, it didn't look like I was

gonna get back into the house so um, I needed to talk to somebody and I went by the parish hall and um, or by the rectory and, you know, it was dark out and I saw, you know, somebody sitting on the back porch with a cigarette. You know, it's a screened in porch. And um, I walked up and he said something like I'd knew you'd be back or, you know, and I said, you know, I need to talk. And, you know, it's well, come on up, come on up, you know. So I opened the door. When I opened the door and walked in I realize that he was sitting there naked. And I just flipped out, you know. And I, I just, you know, I just called him every name under the sun and um, took off up the street through the woods. Never went back.

PF Do you remember him saying anything to you? Anything specific other than come on up or ah, did he try to defend himself in any way or?

No.

PF Okay. Um, I think, anything that leads to you believe that he expected you to be by that particular night or did he just happen to be sitting out there or?

I think he was just, I, I honestly don't know.

PF Okay.

You know. I mean, I don't know. Now my mother swears up and down I was gone for a couple days. That didn't happen. You know, um, you can check with the Hudson Police Department. If I wasn't home at 5 o'clock when I was suppose to be, they were looking for me, you know.

PF Right.

Ah, but, you know ah.

PF So it's after that that you off to

Yes.

PF All right. Get back and some point after you get back, was it within a day or so after you get back?

Oh no, no. It was like, I would say it was probably a week or a couple weeks maybe even.

PF That your mother asked?

Yeah.

PF Okay. You have any idea why she asked or?

Um, I didn't at the time. I've since found out that Father Chalifour had written a letter to her.

PF Oh, okay.

Saying that, you know, he didn't want her to stop working for the church because, I mean, you know, she, she played a big part in the when the church first, well, like I said, she's run every bazaar they had until like 3 years ago.

PF Right.

AV So he sent a letter to her prior to the, the parish council or prior to her confronting you?

Yes, I believe so.

AV Okay.

I didn't even know about the letter 'til this thing started, you know, a few months, a few months ago. Ah, so we went to the ah, parish council and um, there was another father, another priest there who was also on the list.

PF Whose that? You don't remember his name?

I, I, not right off the top of my head but it's in there.

PF Okay.

It's ah, Arsenault?

PF It's okay.

AV Boisselle.

Boisselle. Father Boisselle ah, who took Father Chalifour's place. Ah, as I said (unintelligible) that, that day was worse, in my opinion than, than the incidents that led up to that day. Um, I was standing in a room full of people, basically accusing me of trying to ruin a good man's life and, and you know, I, how dare I and, and um, I have a bit of my father's temper so I'm sure it didn't sit real well with me. Um, but I, I really kinda of blanked it out. I, I, I just, you know, there's certain things, certain faces I, you know, seem to stick in my mind. The thing that's clearest was all of a sudden Father Voicelle stood up and said that's it, I'm not gonna stand here and let this ah, ruin a good man's life and, and it was over. We were asked to leave.

PF Now did they ask you to tell your story or did you just have to stand there and listen to them?

I just had to stand there and listen to them.

PF And then when, when they said their piece, they told you to leave.

Now um, after that my mother brought me back, you know, I don't know, again, the time span, whether it was the next day or a few days later or a week later, I don't remember, but brought me back to the parish hall, to the rectory, to sit and speak with Father Boisselle who was suppose to make it all right. I, I will say the first conversation that I had with him, you know, certainly helped me feel a little better. Um.

PF Why is that?

'Cause he was very, you know, comforting. He was, you know, understanding. He wasn't ah, he wasn't accusing me of, of doing anything, you know. Ah.

AV So you exp-, with this meeting with Boisselle, where you were sitting there with your mom and Boisselle, was anyone else present?

Oh yeah. There was a room full of, the whole church board was there.

AV And they didn't, was this the same parish council you were speaking of?

Yes.

AV Okay.

PF That's the first meeting.

That's the first meeting, right.

PF Then you go back to speak with Boisselle in the rectory.

Boisselle in the rectory. Just him and I.

AV Okay.

Um.

AV Did he ask you to explain what happened?

No. No. Um, he just talked more about church stuff and, and ah, he never made any excuses, he never made any apologies, it was never mentioned. Um, even, the next time I had anything to do with him in some, and I honestly can not remember how this came about but, this is dating it, the only mall that was around back was the Burlington Mall and it was, I don't know if it was coming up on school time or what, but I needed some clothes and Father Boisselle was

gonna give me a ride to the, to the mall to do some shopping. Um, we did. I bought some jeans and a couple flannel shirts or whatever I had the money for and, and um, got back in the car. Started heading back home and, and he pulled into a parking area and you know, of course, by then, you know, a year or so had gone by so I'm a little more worldly --

AV Right.

As I said and, you know, I just kinda looked around in the par-, you know, it was a, you know, rest area, you know, and, you know, put two and two together and said hey, you know ah, it's a short ride back to Hudson and we'd better make it fast. Um, but it always, I always questioned why that happened. Was it in fact the church sending somebody in to try to trip me up, to say that in fact, I did do something wrong or, or is in fact, another priest.

AV Right.

You know, and, and obviously, you know, I know.

AV When you pulled over, did he say anything? Did he?

No. He just kinda pulled over.

AV At the rest area.

Yeah. Yeah. He didn't jump out to use the bushes or anything so.

AV And you quickly said something to him.

Yeah. Like, let's go home.

AV And then, any other conversation about it or just --

Did say nothing.

AV -- put the car in reverse and head back home.

Yeah. Then I got out of the car and never went back.

AV Went back to the ch-, never went back to St. Kathryn's?

Never went back to church. I used to hide in our little um, out behind the church there was, used to be an old farm so there was a, I don't know if it was a checkin feeder or something but it was shaped like a big cone with the whole top of it and a hole on the side and I used to go with my brother Yeah, ma, we're going to church. And then we'd go and hide in there and, 'til church was over and then go home.

AV And she was still very involved with the church at this point?

Oh yeah, oh yeah. Like she is today. I, I even have spray painted baskets for their bazaars and stuff 'cause she asked me to.

AV Right. Right.

You know, I mean its --

AV She's been involved there for a long time.

Yeah. You know.

Well, who was um, who was the first person that you ever told about this. Was there somebody that you, after having, did you ever confide in anyone ah, did you ever tell anyone outside your family?

When I, to go back a little bit, I, I started drinking and doing drugs when I was in the ser-, well, I started drinking at 16.

AV Right.

And um, I was in the service at 17 which opened up, you know it was 1970, '71. There were alot of drugs around. Um, and I, I started using. Um, got out at 19. I was in my first rehab. That rehab told me that, you know, drugs weren't my problem. It was a solution to my problem. My problem was deeper. Um, being 19 years old, I figured, hey at least I got a solution. (Whistle) So I left. Um, when I first met my present wife um, she has two boys, 11 and 13 and by that time, you know, mostly all I did was drink and smoke pot. Um, and a course, you know, um, I, I wanted to be a good example for the kids so um, you know, I, I started like calming down a little bit but then one Sunday I went out and got, you know, shit faced and, and ah, I don't know, I woke up in the morning and, and next thing I know I was signing myself into a rehab. And um, I stayed clean and sober for about 4 months and then, I don't even know when or how or, well, I know how, I mean, I'm an addict. You know, I picked up and ah, then, you know, like I said I was back out there for about 18 months and I just, you know, I don't really remember. I just remember one day showing up at a meeting. Staying there. And it was when I was there that I was trying to get my li-, I, you know I lost my license 3 times for DWI. I, I was trying to get my license back so I can get my life back together, or together and um, and as, as part of the process I had to see a counselor. So when I notified, I don't know if it was Lakes Region Mental Health or it was in Laconia, I know that. That, you know, in the interview over the phone, you know, they asked me what I thought my primary problem was and I said well, you know, I had this problem with a priest when I was a kid. Um, so they hooked me up with a counselor. And I had heard the name because I'd been going to meetings pretty regular and so I knew some other addicts that

were seeing this same person. And I, I mean, you know, it was, it, I can't say that he didn't help me. Um, in the beginning but like when we were going through this, you know, my history, you know, he kinda fluffed right through, it was like he made a bigger deal that my first female lover was a 29 year old married lady next door then he did about the priest, you know, and I, and I, you know, I kinda felt a little weird about that but I didn't, you know, I didn't put anything, you know, I couldn't figure what, what it was. I just didn't feel right to me. And then, you know, eventually sitting around meetings, you know, you, you hear this and that and the other thing and come, come to find out that he's, he was, he's gay and he's an ex-priest. And um, that just, you know, needless to say that just blew me right out of the water so um, I just never went back. Um, my counselor says I have a trust problem. (Laughter)

PF Do you remember who that was, by name?

Ah, it's Paul something or other.

CM Is it Paul Stevens?

Stevens.

AV That was the counselor at Lakes Region?

Yeah. Um, and that was, you know, that's, and I didn't get into any graphic details with him. I didn't tell about what happened. I just, I just said that, you know, I had an incident. Um, I never told, like I said, the first person I ever.

PF Okay. For some reason I thought there was somebody when you were younger that, that ah, I may be wrong. I just, I thought that I heard some mention somebody that you had talked to as a young teenager.

No.

AV Female friend or a neighbor or anything like that?

Ah, I was seeing ah, I was, you know, obviously good friends with the next door neighbor. But I don't, I don't really remember if I said anything to her.

PF That, that information may have came from ah, your mom. And they may be who we should be asking. Perhaps she had spoken with that person and that prompted her to ask you um, something to that affect. And I don't know if your mother ever mentioned that to you or not. And if not, that's fine, we can bring that up to her. Um, I just, I didn't know if you recall ever talking to anybody when you were younger.

I didn't talk to anybody because I, I was afraid that my dad would find out and, and I was afraid of how he would react. You know, my dad was always very protective of me and ah, as well as all his kids but, you know, him and I were the two closest I think.

PF Did he ever find out?

I guess he knew. And, I didn't know, he never said anything to me and I mean I, I took care of my dad for the last 8 months of his life. You know, we had some pretty, pretty good conversations, you know and ah, he died with me believing that he didn't know. And um --

END OF SIDE A

BEGINNING OF SIDE B

Um, I guess, with all the information that we have so far, my last few questions have to do with um, after all is said and done, did you ever have any adult, later in life contact with the church about this? Um, did you ever contact them or they contact you prior to the past, I guess year or so is there any correspondence, any contact with Father Chalifour? Um, how 'bout with your parents? Do you know if they ever had any contact with them?

I have no idea.

PF Okay. Um, did your mother um, right after or anytime soon after, ever confront him about it or um, was it, was the dealings always with Father Boisselle and the parish counsel? Was there any direct dealings with Father Chalifour?

I, I don't know.

PF Okay. Um.

The only thing, what, what started this whole thing for me was um, I was at a big (unintelligible) weekend with my brothers and sisters. We, we get together like couple times a year. Just brothers and sisters and our, our spouses and just go away for a weekend. And this year we were at my brother house and um, as usual, I, I was, you know, I, I kinda stay off from 'em and, you know, I'm reading a bo-, I'm part of it but I'm really not.

AV Right.

And what I heard 'em talking in the um, kitchen, they were playing, I don't know, some cube or something, some board game. And somebody had brought in a newspaper and, and my sister said something about, look at this. There's 3 pages of this crap and, 'course that got my interest up so I, I went in to see what she was talking about and a course it was about all the, the sexual abuse by the

priests. And I was scanning an article and low and behold there was Father Chalifour's name but the, the articles made him sound like a boy scout, you know. Like um, and um, I just lost it. I just lost it. You know, my brothers and sisters are like, what's the matter with him.

AV 'Cause they didn't know anything about it,

Oh no.

Did you end up disclosing to them what happened? AV

They, I mean, they're pretty smart. They figured it out.

AV Right.

> But ah, I never sat with them and, well, I have now because I figured there's no, you know, you know, they've been very supportive and ah, you know, I didn't worry. Ah, so I, first thing I did was, there was a phone number for that um --

The Attorney General's Office? ΑV

No, no. For the um, Bill, the guy that wrote the article.

AV Oh, okay.

> And I called him. You know, and I said, listen, you know um, I'm not saying that this man didn't do some good stuff in his life but he did some damage, you know, and, the reporter said, well, you know, would you, could I interview you. And I said well, because I'd read on the other article about the Attorney General's Office and I said well, no, I'm not, you know, I'm gonna contact them. And then, you know, go from there. Ah, and after that, you know, they, they hooked me up with um, with a therapist um, and I started dealing with it and then I got in touch with ere and ah, to see if there was in fact anything that could be done.

Right. So you didn't personally reach out to the diocese on your own in the last AVyear or so?

I've ---

ΑV Once you're retained counsel and?

I, I sat right there last couple what, couple weeks ago with, with Father um --

CM Arsenault.

Arsenault. And, and that's the first contact that I've had with the Catholic church.

PF Now, did you talk to him directly at that meeting or did he set it up.

No. Him and I sat right there and talked.

PF Okay. Is he aware of, of what happened to you? Is he now, or was he already?

I'm pretty sure he was all ready.

PF Okay. Did he give you any inside as to his position? Whether he didn't believe you or believe you or anything like that?

Oh no. He was very you know --

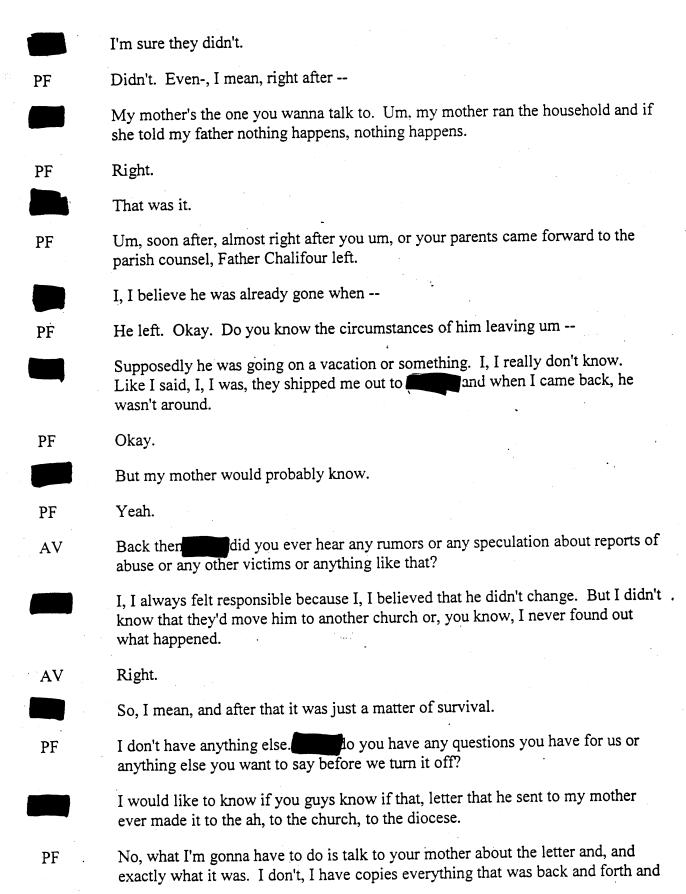
AS Supportive.

Very supportive, yeah. Um, you know, he apologized. Ah, he asked me, a little, you know, like this, you know. He didn't really ask me about the incident. You know, it was more like how it affected me. You know and, and, as I said to him, you know, I was clean and sober for 13 years. You know, working on 13 years and, and now, you know, I'm on medication just to get so I can continue to do my job and, and stay married, you know. And ah, and pills so I can go to sleep at night. Um, and I, you know I know alot of people would just think, well, you know, what's the big deal. You know, you're not gonna have to be on it forever. But, you know, the addict in me says, you know, I, I stay screwed up for 22 years because of these feelings, you know, and, and then I, I, I stayed, you know, with a lot of hard work, stayed clean and sober for 13 years and now I'm right back in the shit again. You know and, pardon my French. But, you know, the bottom line is is that I just don't wanna ever see anybody have to go through this again. You know, my ultimate goal is, and I, and I said this to whoever I talked to at the Attorney General's Office, if it, if it would help for someone, the next time this comes up for law to eliminate the statute of limitations on these types of claims, then, then I would be more than happy to address the legislature at, whatever, however uncomfortable I may be about it. I just don't wanna see this ever happen again. You know, it couldn't happen today. You know, when I was growing up, you didn't say no to an adult. Any adult. And certainly not a priest. You know, there were certain people that you trusted your life to. The police officers, the fire off-, you know, firemen and, and the priest. You know, that's not true today. You know, we're told you can say no to any adult.

AV Right. Things are (unintelligible)

You know, I mean, the education that we give our children today, you know, it just wouldn't happen.

PF Do you know if your parents or anybody ever ah, talked to the police about what happened at the time?



honestly, I don't know. Um, I remember reading about the fact that there was a letter.

Yeah.

PF Um, but um, I don't know if that, obviously that letter is in existence or not.

Yeah. I don't, I don't, I don't believe it ever made it. I think, you know, she gave it to Richard Dolbec then and it disappeared. That's what I believe.

AV And his position was what? Head of the parish council?

Head of the, yeah, he was the president of the parish counsel.

AV So was he a priest?

Oh, no.

AV Okay. He was a parishioner.

Yeah.

AV Okay.

PF I'm gonna shut off the tape. It's ah, 6:01.

END OF TAPE

TO:

File (Father Gerald Chalifour)

FROM:

Allison Vachon, AGO Investigator

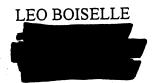
RE:

Aime Boisselle

DATE:

September 13, 2002

On 9/13/02 I contacted the home of:



LEO is the brother of Father AIME BOISSELLE. I left a message with Leo BOISSELLE's wife that I am trying to reach Father BOISSELLE.

Through interviews with both and and Father GERALD CHALIFOUR it has become apparent that Father BOISELLE was made aware of sexual abuse allegations regarding CHALIFOUR back in 1969. We would like to speak with him reference this matter.

TO:

File (Father Gerald Chalifour)

FROM:

Allison Vachon, AGO Investigator

RE:

Aime Boisselle

DATE:

September 17, 2002

On 9/17/02 I again contacted the home of LEO BOISELLE, who is the brother of Father AIME BOISSELLE. There was no answer at the residence and no answering machine.

TO:

File (Father Gerald Chalifour)

FROM:

Allison Vachon, AGO Investigator

RE:

Aime Boisselle

DATE:

September 18, 2002

On 9/18/02 I contacted the home of LEO BOISELLE, the brother of Father AIME BOISSELLE. I again spoke with Leo BOISSELLE's wife and asked if BOISSELLE lived at that address. She stated he did not and would not provide any further information. I asked her to pass along the message that I would like to speak with him.

TO:

File (Father Gerald Chalifour)

FROM:

Allison Vachon, AGO Investigator

RE:

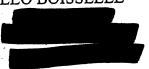
Aime Boisselle

DATE:

September 18, 2002

On 9/18/02 I contacted the Law Office of Attorney ROBERT MCDANIEL (603) 224-4333 to inquire about any contacts they may have had with AIME BOISSELLE. I spoke with LORI, Attorney MCDANIEL's Legal Assistant and she stated the only address and phone # she had in her records were identical to what I already had:

LEO BOISSELLE



TO:

File (Father Gerald Chalifour)

FROM:

Allison Vachon, AGO Investigator

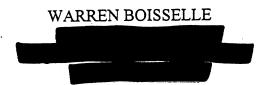
RE:

Aime Boisselle

DATE:

September 19, 2002

On 9/19/02 LORI from Attorney MCDANIEL's office contacted me to state that she had an address and phone # of where AIME BOISSELLE may be living with another brother in the state of Virginia. The brother is:



I then called this number and left a message on the machine for Aime BOISSELLE to contact me.

TO:

File (Father Gerald Chalifour)

FROM:

Allison Vachon, AGO Investigator

RE:

Aime Boisselle

DATE:

September 23, 2002

On September 23, 2002 I spoke with Deputy Chief Peter Morinsi from the Berlin, NH Police Department reference AIME BOISSELLE. I informed him that BOISSELLE may have information regarding incidents of sexual abuse that we were currently investigating. I provided MORINSI with an address of his brother LEO BOISSELLE at

MORINSI contacted me after he went to the home of LEO BOISSELLE. He requested that LEO BOISSELLE notify his brother, AIME BOISSELLE and ask him to contact me as soon as possible.

TO:

File (Father Gerald Chalifour)

FROM:

Allison Vachon, AGO Investigator +

RE:

Aime Boisselle

DATE:

September 24, 2002

On September 24, 2002, Father AIME BOISSELLE left a voice message for me but did not leave a phone number. He again left me another message later in the day without a number.

At that point, I contacted a phone number in Florida that I had received from Attorney Bob McDaniel's office Box Bolisselle Bolisselle answered the telephone and I stated that I was interested in speaking with him about Father GERALD CHALIFOUR. We scheduled a telephone interview for 10:00am on September 25, 2002.

TO:

File (Father Gerald Chalifour)

FROM:

Allison Vachon, AGO Investigator

RE:

Aime Boisselle

DATE:

September 25, 2002

On September 25, 2002 at 10:00am I contacted Father AIME BOISSELLE regarding our scheduled phone interview along with Detective PETER FAVREAU and Attorney WILL DELKER. BOISSELLE did not answer the phone and the answering machine picked up and stated that "Jim" was not home. After re-checking the number I phoned again and left a message regarding the phone interview and requested a call back.

BOISSELLE left me a message later that day stating that he did not wish to be interviewed.

TO:

File (Father Gerald Chalifour)

FROM:

Allison Vachon, AGO Investigator

AN

RE:

Aime Boisselle

DATE:

September 25, 2002

On September 25, 2002 WILL DELKER and ALLISON VACHON spoke with Attorney GORDON MCDONALD and Father ED ARSENAULT regarding allegations of sexual abuse they had received reference Father AIME BOISSELLE. BOISSELLE's file was previously received, but it did not contain any information regarding incidents of sexual abuse only homosexual relationships with adult males.

ARSENAULT stated that he had a "delegate" file which contains the following information. On May 14, 2002, three adult men who were sexually abused as minors came to the diocese to report they had been abused by BOISSELLE in the 1960's while he was Pastor at St. Marie's Parish in Manchester, NH. The victims stated they did not want the Attorney General's Office involved. BOISSELLE was placed on administrative leave and he submitted a letter requesting resignation.

BOISSELLE came to see ARSENAULT on May 15, 2002 and met with Bishop MCCORMACK on May 17, 2002. They stated to BOISSELLE that victims had come forward, that an investigation was ongoing, and asked if he wished to respond to the accusations. BOISSELLE declined to respond to the allegations and left the state of New Hampshire on May 18, 2002.

The allegations are as follows:

First allegation - In 1963-64 when the victim was 13-14years old he took at trip with BOISSELLE to his home in Berlin and BOISSELLE assaulted the victim by rubbing his chest and trying to put his hand down his pants.

Second allegation – In the 1960's when the victim was a minor (not sure of exact year or age of victim) he slept in the same bed with BOISSELLE when BOISSELLE was naked. He mad the victim take of his clothes and masturbate him.

Third allegation – In the 1960's when the victim was a minor (not sure of exact year or age of victim) he stayed at the rectory with BOISSELLE and there were multiple incidents of fondling and masturbation. The victim traveled with BOISSELLE on several occasions and

his family was friendly with BOISSELLE. The victim's family continually encouraged him to spend time with BOISSELLE.

A copy of BOISSELLE's delegate file will be made available to the Attorney General's Office.

