

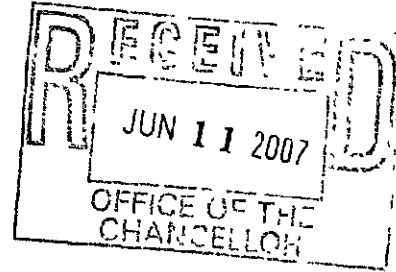
ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office for the Protection of Children and Youth
Office of Assistance Ministry
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review
Safe Environment Office



P O Box 1979
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979
312-751-5388
312-751-8307, fax

MEMORANDUM



To: Cardinal Francis George, O.M.I.

Cc: Rev. John Canary, Vicar General
Rev. Edward Grace, Vicar for Priests
Jimmy Lago, Chancellor
Rev. Daniel Smilanic, Cardinal's Delegate to the Review Board

From: Leah McCluskey, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review

Re: Strand, Rev. Ralph [Withdrawn] [Redacted]
[Redacted], Msgr. [Redacted] [Deceased] [Redacted]

Date: June 7, 2007

After a review of files, I came across the matter of [Redacted] allegation of the sexual abuse of a minor against Rev. Ralph Strand. Mr. [Redacted] allegation was first received on August 24, 1999.

This matter was before the Review Board for its consideration on September 18, 1999. The minutes from the meeting include, "Based on observation of PFRA and Michael Bland from VAM, as well as the following factors, the Board determined it is reasonable to conclude that allegations made concerning 7th and 8th grade are credible."

I have attached a copy of the September 18, 1999 meeting minutes pertaining to Mr. [Redacted] allegation against Fr. Strand to this memorandum. Despite the Review Board's recommendation on this matter, I was unable to find a specific letter to informing you of the recommendation and/or a response from you noting your decision.

As I continued to review Mr. [Redacted] files, I determined that he also alleged that Msgr. [Redacted] was involved in the sexual abuse that took place when he was a minor. A review of the meeting minutes from the October 16, 1999 meeting provide the following information: PFRA received a letter from [Redacted] dated September 19, 1999.. [Redacted] vaguely recalls that he 'may remember that Msgr. [Redacted] [sic] was involved in the sexual abuse as well...' I have attached a copy of October 16th meeting minutes to this memorandum as well. The Review Board's actions are recorded as there being "insufficient information" to make a finding of reasonable cause to suspect.

Essentially, it seems that Mr. [REDACTED] allegation against Msgr. [REDACTED] was clearly documented past the October 16, 1999 Review Board meeting and reflected in our database system. However, Mr. [REDACTED] allegation against Fr. Strand was not clearly documented past the September 18, 1999, namely, a letter to you stating the Board's recommendation of "reasonable cause to suspect that the alleged misconduct occurred" and then a necessary written response from you with your decision on the matter.

Please let me know how you would like to proceed with the matter of Mr. [REDACTED] allegation against Fr. Strand. This is necessary for documentation purposes as well as notification purposes to Mr. [REDACTED] and Fr. Strand, to inform them that the matter was presented to the Review Board and whatever your decision would be in response to the Board's recommendation.

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of Professional Fitness Review
676 N. St. Clair, Suite 1910
Chicago, IL 60611



(312)751-5205
1-800-994-6280
Fax (312)751-5279

**Professional Fitness Review Board Meeting
October 16, 1999**

MINUTES

Board Members Present at the Meeting:



Others Present:

Rev. Thomas J. Paprocki, Cardinal's Delegate to the Review Board
Kathleen Leggdas, PFRA

Absent:

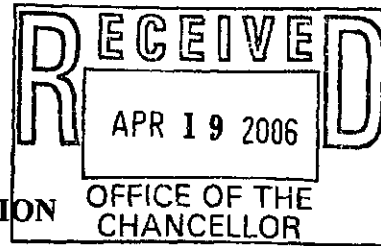
Alberta Bowles

- I. Approval of September 18, 1999 Minutes.
- II. A. In the matter of PFR-41, Rev. Ralph Strand.

PFRA received a letter from [REDACTED] dated September 19, 1999. In this letter [REDACTED] vaguely recalls that he "may remember that Msgr. [REDACTED] was involved in the sexual abuse as well." He describes this as a "snippet or flash" of memory but is very vague on any "explicit memory of abuse on the part of Msgr."

The Board Members discussed this and were unable to make a determination on this allegation. The information is vague and there is no way to verify, as Msgr. [REDACTED] died February 16, 1986.

Requests to concelebrate at St. Francis of Rome installation and to serve as assistant to Chaplain on two week cruise were denied. Decision is based on Individual Specific Protocol restrictions from active public ministry. Fr. Strand is encouraged to attend installation, and may wear his collar as indicated in previous protocol change.



SUMMARY TIME LINE OF ALLEGATION

	ACCUSED	ACCUSER
Name:	Rev. Ralph Strand	[REDACTED]
Address:	Cardinal Stritch Retreat House Mundelein, IL	[REDACTED]
Date of Birth:	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Current age:	68	31
Name of civil attorney:	Patrick Reardon	

Date of Ordination [of accused]: 4/30/64

Location: Mundelein

Age at ordination: 26

Assignment location of accused: N/A

Status of accused: Withdrawn from ministry

Name of canonical advocate: Msgr. Rick Sosaman

Date allegation received by PRA: 3/19/93

Date allegation formalized with PRA:

Date of initial incident of alleged abuse: 1990

Date of last incident of alleged abuse: 1993

Approximate number of incidents of alleged abuse: several

Brief summary of alleged abuse: disrobing by Fr. Strand and [REDACTED] sexual touching over and under clothes, mutual masturbation, oral/genital contact; Fr. Strand suspended and charged for aggravated criminal sexual abuse

Brief summary and date of response from accused:

Stage of disposition by Professional Responsibility Review Board: 3/93—Fr. Strand be immediately withdrawn from ministry

Additional allegations made by accuser: None

ADDITIONAL ALLEGATIONS AGAINST ACCUSED

Name of accuser: [REDACTED]

Date of Birth: [REDACTED]

Current age: 47

Name of civil attorney: Jeff Anderson

Date allegation received by PRA: 3/30/93; 6/04

Date allegation formalized with PRA: 6/10/04

Date of initial incident of alleged abuse: 1972

Date of last incident of alleged abuse: 1973

Approximate number of incidents of alleged abuse: more than one

Brief summary of alleged abuse: kissing, touching, grabbing genitals and buttocks through clothes; fondling, chasing, tackling; Mr. [REDACTED] reported abuse, but did not wish to pursue in March 1993; formalized allegation in June 2004

Brief summary and date of response from accused: 9/16/04; Fr. Strand denied the allegation

Stage of disposition by Professional Responsibility Review Board: 4/05—Concluded, reasonable cause to suspect the alleged misconduct occurred

Additional allegations made by accuser: None

ADDITIONAL ALLEGATIONS AGAINST ACCUSED

Name of accuser: [REDACTED]

Date of Birth: [REDACTED]

Current age: 47

Name of civil attorney: Jeff Anderson

Date allegation received by PRA: 3/93; 6/04

Date allegation formalized with PRA: 6/9/04

Date of initial incident of alleged abuse: 1972

Date of last incident of alleged abuse: 1974/75

Approximate number of incidents of alleged abuse: more than 50 but less than 100

Brief summary of alleged abuse: Mr. [REDACTED] reported he was abused, did not wish to pursue allegation in March 1993; fondling and groping more than 50 times but less than 100

Brief summary and date of response from accused: 9/16/04; Fr. Strand denied the allegation

Stage of disposition by Professional Responsibility Review Board: 4/05—Concluded, reasonable cause to suspect the alleged misconduct occurred

Additional allegations made by accuser: None

ADDITIONAL ALLEGATIONS AGAINST ACCUSED

Name of accuser: [REDACTED]

Date of Birth: [REDACTED]

Current age: 46

Name of civil attorney: Jeff Anderson

Date allegation received by PRA: 4/28/04

Date allegation formalized with PRA: 6/9/04

Date of initial incident of alleged abuse: 1973

Date of last incident of alleged abuse: 1973

Approximate number of incidents of alleged abuse: several

Brief summary of alleged abuse: touching, groping at buttocks; Fr. ^{Strand}Swade sticking his fingers in Mr. [REDACTED] mouth while giving host during mass ^{by Fr. R. McCluskey 4-19-06}

Brief summary and date of response from accused: 9/16/04; Fr. Strand denied the allegation

Stage of disposition by Professional Responsibility Review Board: 4/05—Concluded, reasonable cause to suspect the alleged misconduct occurred

Additional allegations made by accuser: None

Signature of PRA:



Date:

4/13/06

**Client Case Review
Professional Fitness Review Office
March 14, 2002**

PFR-41 Rev. Ralph Strand

Three males ranging in age from 12 – 17 have made allegations of sexual misconduct against Father Strand. Abuse took place over years of 1964 – 1973. One allegation of sodomy was made one of oral sex. Others included sexually explicit conversations and touching the boy's genitals. Father Strand served 22 months in prison for criminal sexual abuse of minors and was on parole until 1999. He is now compliant with laws governing Registration of Criminal Sex Offenders. He resides in a monitored setting at Koenig Hall in Mundelein. He has been withdrawn from active ministry and works in the Vicar for Priests' Office two days a week. Father Strand's protocol requires a daily phone call to Professional Fitness Review Office, daily log submitted and only private celebration of the Eucharist.

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of the Archbishop



Post Office Box 1979
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979

(312) 751-8230
Fax (312) 337-6379

May 15, 2000

Ms. Kathleen Leggdas
Professional Fitness Review Administrator
676 N. St. Clair, Suite 1910
Chicago, IL 60611

Dear Kathleen,

I am writing for the record in response to your letter of April 26, 2000 regarding the matter of **Reverend Ralph Strand**, following the Supplementary Review conducted by the Review Board on April 15, 2000 regarding the proposal, in light of the imminent closure of Vianney House, that Father Strand be allowed to stay regularly at St. Mary of Perpetual Help Rectory.

I accept the Board's recommendation that Father Strand be allowed to stay at St. Mary of Perpetual Help, where there is a school, only in exceptional circumstances such as inclement weather, poor health, etc. In each circumstance, he is to obtain the permission of yourself as Professional Fitness Review Administrator. I also accept the Board's recommendation that this be done on an experimental basis to be reviewed by yourself in consultation with the Board every two or three months.

I am grateful to you and the members of the Review Board for your assistance.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Francis Cardinal George".

Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I.
Archbishop of Chicago

Given at the Chancery

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Thomas J. Paprocki".

Rev. Thomas J. Paprocki
Chancellor

cc: Most Reverend Raymond E. Goedert, Vicar General
Reverend Lawrence P. McBrady, Vicar for Priests
Mr. Ralph Bonaccorsi, Victim Assistance Minister
Mr. John C. O'Malley, Director of Legal Services

AOC 005433

COPY

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of Professional Fitness Review
676 N. St. Clair, Suite 1910
Chicago, IL 60611



(312)751-5205
1-800-994-6200
Fax (312)751-5279

April 26, 2000

Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I.
Archbishop of Chicago
155 E. Superior St.
Chicago, IL 60611

Dear Cardinal George,

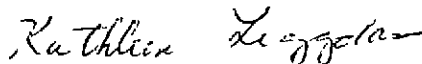
Please be advised that the Review Board met on April 15, 2000 and conducted a Supplementary Review in the matter of Rev. Ralph Strand, pursuant to Article 1104.11 of the Review Process of Continuation of Ministry.

Rev. Dan Coughlin, Vicar for Priests made the presentation regarding a proposal that with the closure of Vianney House, Father Strand be allowed to regularly stay at St. Mary of Perpetual Help Rectory.

The Board fully considered all oral and written reports in this matter and recommended that Father Strand be allowed to stay at St. Mary of Perpetual Help, where there is a school, only in exceptional circumstances such as inclement weather, poor health, etc. In each circumstance, he is to obtain the permission of the Professional Fitness Review Administrator (PFRA). The Board further recommended that this be done on an experimental basis to be reviewed by the PFRA in consultation with the Board every two or three months.

If you have any questions, please contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,



Kathleen Leggdas
Professional Fitness Review Administrator

KL/lmp

Cc: Members of the Review Board
Rev. Thomas J. Paprocki, Cardinal's Delegate to the Review Board
Rev. Larry McBrady, Vicar for Priests

AOC 005434

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of the Chancellor



Post Office Box 1979
Chicago, Illinois 60690

(312) 751-8220
Fax (312) 751-5381

MEMORANDUM

TO: File

FROM: Rev. Thomas J. Paprocki, Chancellor *TJP*

DATE: April 15, 2000

RE: Review Board Meeting – [REDACTED]

Fr. Coughlin and Fr. McBrady met with the Review Board to discuss the disposition of [REDACTED] which is scheduled for purchase by the City for a new park. The proposal is to move the residents of [REDACTED] to a restricted area of St. Mary of Perpetual Help Rectory. This would primarily involve full-time residence for Fr. [REDACTED] and permission for Fr. Ralph Strand, whose full-time residence is at Koenig Hall, to stay one or nights per week at St. Mary of Perpetual Help.

Fr. Coughlin made the presentation regarding Fr. Strand, and Fr. McBrady spoke on behalf of [REDACTED]. After their presentations and further discussion in response to the questions of the Board, Fr. Coughlin and Fr. McBrady left the meeting, and the Review Board deliberated on their proposals.

Regarding Fr. Strand, the Review Board recommended by a vote of 5-2 that he be allowed to stay at St. Mary of Perpetual Help Rectory only in exceptional circumstances such as inclement weather, poor health, etc. In each circumstance, he is to obtain the permission of the PFRA. The Board further asked that this be done on an experimental basis to be reviewed by the PFRA in consultation with the Board every two or three months.

Concerning [REDACTED] the Review Board recommended unanimously that he not be allowed to stay at St. Mary of Perpetual Help Rectory and asked that another alternative be found.

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of the Archbishop



Post Office Box 1979
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979

(312) 751-8230
Fax (312) 337-6379

November 3, 1999

Ms. Kathleen Leggdas
Professional Fitness Review Administrator
676 N. St. Clair, Suite 1910
Chicago, IL 60611

Dear Kathleen,

I am writing in response to your letter of August 31, 1999 regarding the matter of Father Ralph Strand, following the Review Board's meeting of August 21, 1999.

[REDACTED] Father Strand is no longer on parole, I have accepted the Board's recommendation that Father Strand be allowed to wear the Roman collar at clergy gatherings, at wakes, and at Masses for which he has received approval to participate. I also concur with the Board's agreement to reduce the frequency of his calling in to the Professional Fitness Review Office from twice a day to once a day.

I further accept the Board's recommendation that Father Strand continue to maintain a daily log which is submitted monthly to the Office of Professional Fitness Review, although this log may be less detailed than in the past. As the Board suggests, it should primarily indicate where Father Strand is spending his evenings, weekends and overnight stays.

I am grateful to the members of the Review Board and yourself for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Francis Cardinal George".

Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I.
Archbishop of Chicago

Given at the Chancery

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Thomas J. Paprocki".

Rev. Thomas J. Paprocki
Chancellor

cc: Most Reverend Raymond E. Goedert, Vicar General
Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, Vicar for Priests
Mr. Ralph Bonaccorsi, Victim Assistance Minister
Mr. John C. O'Malley, Director of Legal Services

AOC 005436

COPY

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of Professional Fitness Review
676 N. St. Clair, Suite 1910
Chicago, IL 60611



(312)751-5205
1-800-994-6200
Fax (312)751-5279

Memorandum

Memo to File: PFR-41
From: Kathleen Leggdas, Administrator
Re: Ralph Strand
Date: September 20, 1999

Summary of discussion from Professional Review Board Meeting on September 18, 1999:

Newly received allegation reviewed by Board. [REDACTED] alleges sexual misconduct as a minor against Father Strand.

Based on observation of PFRA and Michael Bland from VAM, as well as the following factors, the Board determined it is reasonable to conclude that allegations made concerning 7th and 8th grade are credible.

- Fr. Strand was at St. Simeon at that time and did work with the altar boys.
- Alleged behavior is consistent with previous credible allegations.
- Other altar boys named by [REDACTED] appear in previous allegations made in reference to the same time period.
- [REDACTED] description of Fr. Strand detailed and accurate.

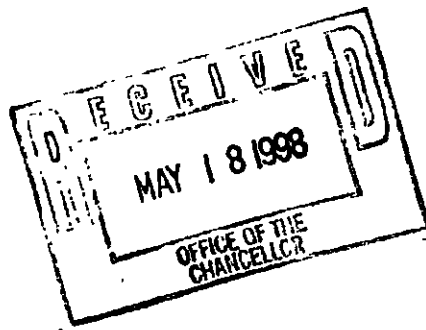
Earlier memories are per Mr. [REDACTED] vague, and cannot be verified. Nor do alleged dates (1966 - 67) coincide with Fr. Strand's years at the parish. He was assigned to St. Simeon from 1968 - 1975.

Fr. Strand recalls the name [REDACTED] Denies sodomizing any minor; denies allegation of sexual intercourse with religious and/or participation of [REDACTED]

No further recommendations made. Protocol to remain as revised at August 1999 meeting.

AOC 005437

5-11-98



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO
ATTN: FATHER THOMAS PAPROCKI
PASTORAL CENTER
155 E. SUPERIOR
CHICAGO, IL 60611

FATHER THOMAS PAPROCKI :

I AM WRITING TO YOU TO REPORT
SEXUAL MOLESTATIONS AND
SEXUAL ABUSE THAT HAPPENED
TO ME BY A CATHOLIC PRIEST
AND NUN WHEN I WAS SEVEN
YEARS OLD.



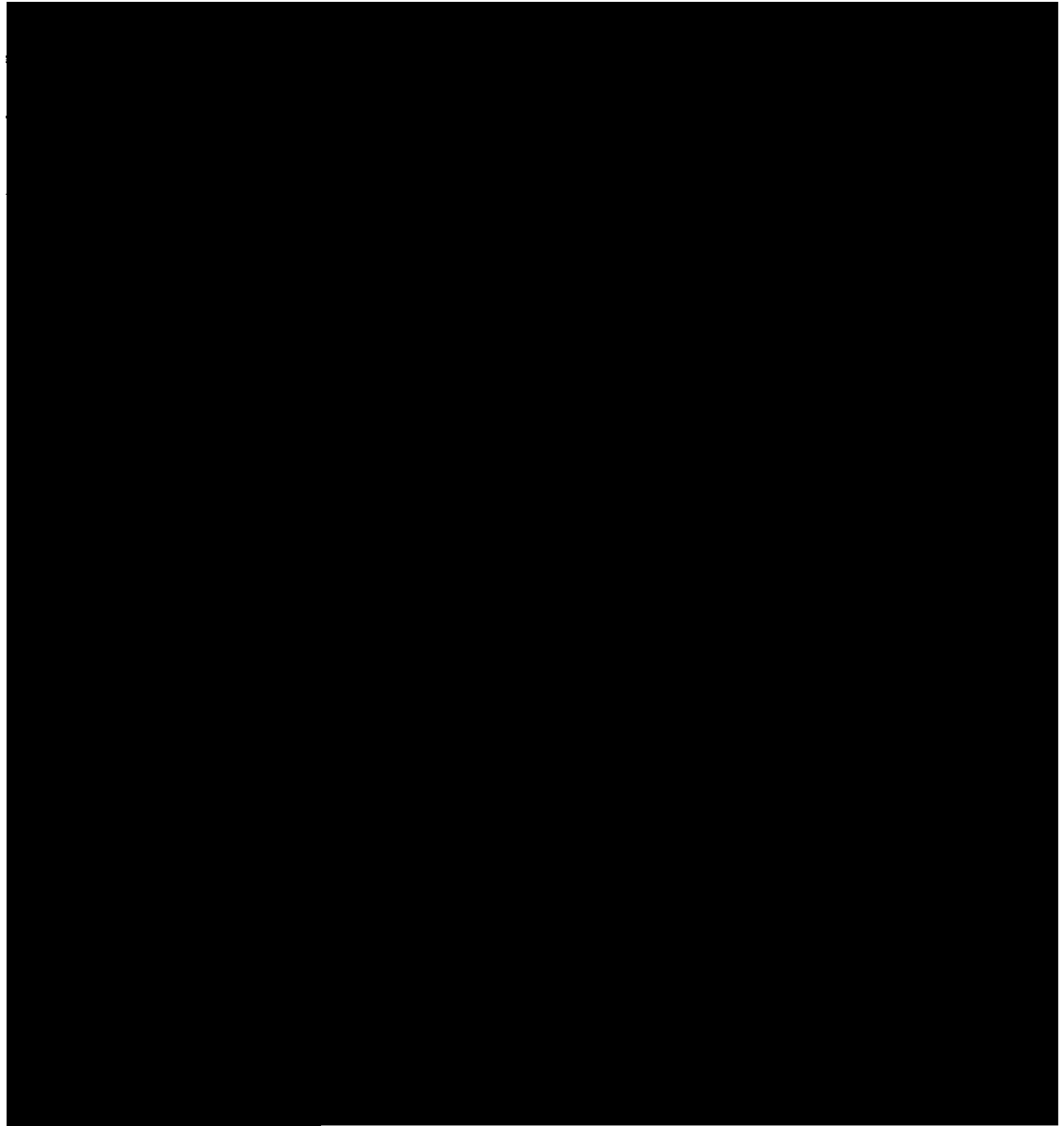
I AM CURRENTLY THIRTY -
EIGHT YEARS OLD. THE PRIEST,
THAT COMMITTED THESE MOLESTATIONS

(1)

IS REV. STRAND, I DO NOT
RECALL THE NUN'S NAME BUT
I CAN PICTURE HER RACE AND
CAN TELL YOU SHE HAD RED
HAIR, THE SEXUAL MOLESTATIONS
INCLUDED REV. STRAND
SODOMIZING ME AND OTHER
SEXUAL ACTS THAT INCLUDES

[REDACTED] MAKING
ME PERFORM SEXUAL ACTS
WHILE THEY HAD SEXUAL
INTERCOURSE TOGETHER, [REDACTED]

(2)



REV. STRAND'S
TALKING PERVERTEDLY ABOUT
SEX WITH THE BOYS IN MY
[REDACTED] GRADE CLASS AND

(3)

WOULD GRAB AT OUR CROTCHES
WITH HIS HANDS. [REDACTED]

REV. STRAND MADE A MEANING
SEXUAL ADVANCES TOWARD [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] WHEN HE WAS
IN JUNIOR HIGH.

ALL OF WHAT I HAVE TOLD
YOU CONCERNING REV. STRAND'S
AND THE NUNS SEXUAL
CRIMINALITY TO ME TOOK PLACE
ON THE PREMISES AND/OR
PROPERTY OF ST. SIMEON IN
BELLWOOD, IL, [REDACTED]

(4)

I SHOULD ALSO MENTION
THAT THERE WAS ANOTHER
PRIEST BY THE NAME OF
REV. CERNIGLIA WHO I BELIEVE
HELPED TO STOP THE SEXUAL
ABUSE REV. STRAND WAS DOING
TO ME BY CONFRONTING HIM
OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL BUILDING,



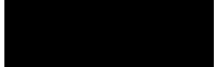
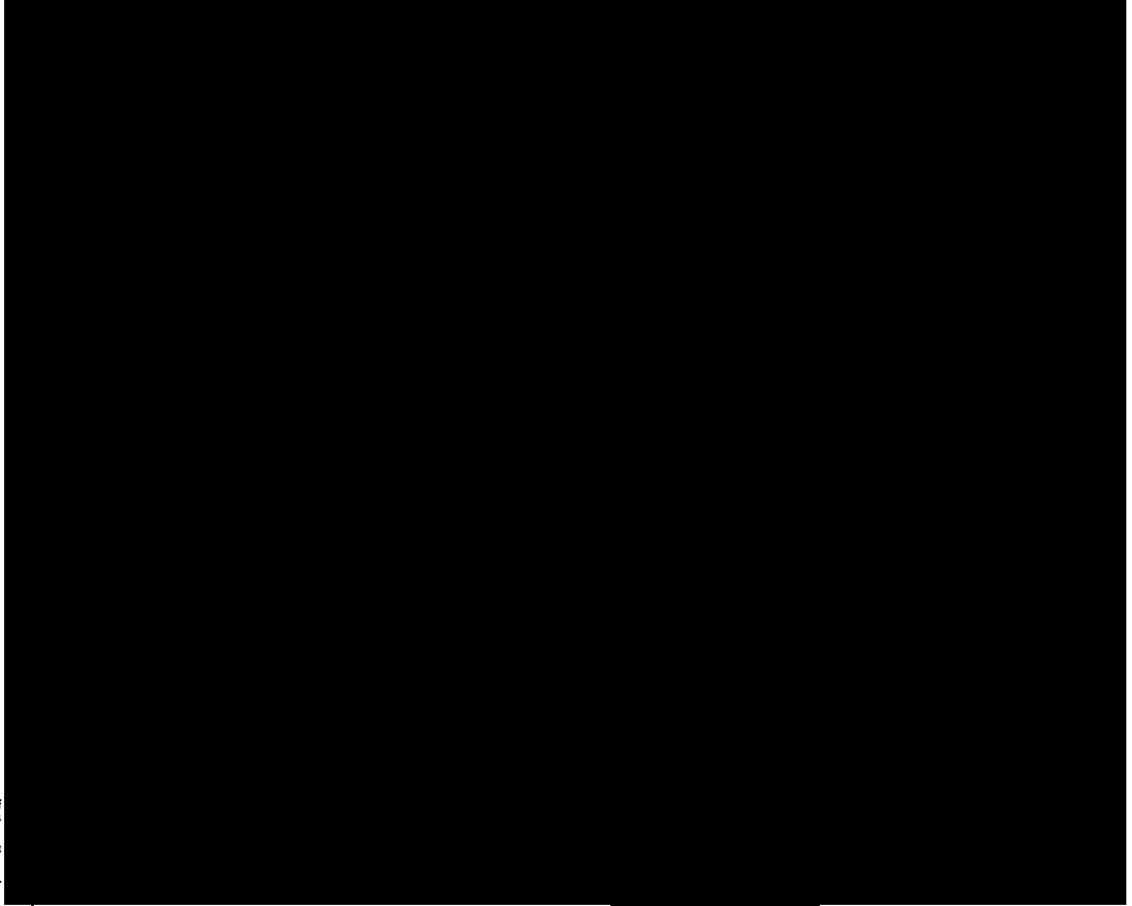
(5)

[REDACTED]

RESPECTFULLY,

[REDACTED]

(b)



(7)

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of the Archbishop



Post Office Box 1979
Chicago, Illinois 60690

June 17, 1996

Dear Ralph:

Despite the fact that I have not recently seen you, I have been thinking and praying about your situation. The Vicars for Priests have kept me informed about your situation these past months. I know that Father Coughlin recently visited you and shared with you what my intentions are with regard to your priesthood. Let me reiterate how I am approaching this matter.

Because of the requirements of canon law, I had to consider whether a "canonical penalty" should be imposed in your situation. Considering the circumstances of your case as they are known to me, I have decided that I will not seek your dismissal from the clerical state. Father Coughlin, I am informed, told you that verbally. I do not judge that justice and equity would be served by so severe a sanction. You have suffered enough by your present deprivation of ministry and your incarceration.

On the other hand, because of your conviction and imprisonment, I cannot guarantee any public ministry for you in the future. Although I cannot speak for any future Archbishop who will someday succeed me, you should expect that any decision regarding future ministry will have to be made in accord with canon law and Archdiocesan policies and procedures, in consultation with the Professional Fitness Review Board. Apart from the question of any ministerial assignment, it is my hope that as a priest you would focus on being dedicated to a fervent life of prayer, nourished by attention to deepening your own priestly spirituality.

Ralph, I hope this information helps you focus on your future in as constructive a way as possible. If you have any questions about it, please discuss it with one of the Vicars.

Please be assured of my continued prayers on your behalf.

With cordial good wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Joseph Card. Bernardin
Archbishop of Chicago

Reverend Ralph Strand
368485 Robinson Correctional Facility
P.O. Box 900
Robinson, IL 62454

cc: Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin
Reverend Lawrence P. McBrady
Office of the Vicar for Priests

bc: Joseph Cardinal Bernardin
Rev. Patrick R. Lagges, Ad hoc Promoter of Justice
Mr. John C. O'Malley, Director, Office of Legal Services

AOC 005445

(1)

- ① aware of charge while in Rome.
- ② mtg at APC - 3/25/93 to brief ^{Duke} Ray
- ③ we were not given specifics of the allegation - only
 - a) sexual misconduct with a minor
 - b) who is not a male adult
 - c) & it took place within last 5 years
- ④ Ralph B. asked me to take the lead at St. Mary's on Friday, 3/26, as he would be at St. Francis.
- ⑤ Friday - 3/26 - we met at St. M. at 6:30 P.M. & TEAM Rehearsed format worked out by Ralph B. (For School Parents)
 - format worked well until we tried to stop the Q. & A. session after my presentation to allow Dr. Levin & Dr. Gardner to make their presentation.
 - Audience became very angry - thought we were manipulating them - not a true dialogue with them but only a monologue.
 - Prevaling opinion of those speaking was definitely pro R. Strand. It was as though he was the victim.
 - meeting was similar to others in previous cases - much anger at Diocese, media, even at the victim - "Why does the victim remain anonymous but Fr. Strand's good name is spread all over the media."
 - audience felt it had a right to know the name of the accuser, the exact charge, where & when it took place.

(2)

⑥ Monday - 3/29 - Mtg. for Parishians at Large

- we went thru all presentations before 2 & 4.
- seemed to be more anger than Friday
- more pro Strand sentiment

Conclusion ① while our top priority is safety of children we have to look again at our procedure. It should not only be just, but should also have the appearance of justice - and right now, that's not how the parishians see it.

- appears to be unjust to accused. His reputation is destroyed - even if he eventually exonerated, his ability to minister again is practically nil.

- part of the problem is the public manner in which we handle the accused - by removing him we broadcast the issue to the world. Media picks up on it immediately & exploits it for its own purposes - namely, titillation of the public's curiosity to assure high ratings

- Is there not some other way to protect children & at the same time not destroy the accused, e.g. leave the accused in place, but assign a monitor, spell out his restrictions, inform leadership, etc. (house arrest is better than public disgrace)

(3)

② I would raise the question again - why do we feel obliged to further victimize the victim by insisting the matter be reported to DCF & State Attorney, even though:

a) the victim is no longer a minor

b) the victim and his family clearly want to avoid involvement in the civil arena

Our policy makes good PR, initially, but in effect makes the church an arm of the State Attorney & DCF & causes severe problems without any guarantee that children are better served. On the contrary, some victims and their families will shy away from reporting abuse because of their unwillingness to become involved in civil or criminal proceedings. As a result the victim is not cared for and the accused goes untreated. We ought to learn something from the experience of therapists - cf. Dr. Berlin testimony.

③ There are competing values:

a) safety of children - minimize risk.

b) constitutional right of accused to be treated as innocent until proven otherwise.

Our guidelines do not adequately respond to either value - and in fact, do just the opposite as far as the accused is concerned.

(4)

(4) I don't have an answer as yet, but neither do I think our procedures are the answer. Strong resentment was expressed by parishioners at both meetings that one person (Fitness Review Board) should be allowed to make a decision to remove the accused with so little evidence, etc. It didn't help to say that the Cardinal and the Review Board entered into the decision, since they all relied solely on the opinion of one person. Somewhat of a pastor with the devastating effect of the media on his good name is too high a price to pay - there had to be a better way, but we haven't yet discovered it.

(5) Bottom line - under the present system, the church simply can't win. We are damned, no matter how we handle the issue. The irresponsibility of the media renders us helpless to protect the good name of the accused.

(6) So far, we have heard nothing about the new allegations against Fr. Strand. It seems to me that Jake & I ought to be kept up to date on what's going on. I was criticized at the public meeting for not having any info. that the people hadn't already heard in the media. People assume we are "covering up" & several verbalized this.

OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL FITNESS REVIEW
CLIENT INFORMATION SHEET

FILE:

Opened - 3/17/93
Closed

REVIEW STATUS:

1st Stage - 3/20/93
2nd Stage -
Supp. Rev.

1. **NAME:** Ralph Strand
S.S.# [REDACTED]

BIRTHDAY:

ORDAINED: 1964

2. **RESIDENCE:**

ADDRESS:

DATES:

[REDACTED]
Msgr. Koenig Hall
Cook County Jail

[REDACTED]
P.O. Box 455 Mundelein, IL. 60060

3/93 - 5/93
5/93 - 4/94
4/94 - 7/95

3. **MINISTRY:**

Pastor - St. Francis Borgia

STATUS:

Withdrawn

DATES:

3/93

4. **ALLEGATION(S):**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Date of Offense(s)</u>	<u>Sex/Age</u>	<u>Credibility</u>
			<u>Yes</u> <u>No</u>
3/17/93	1990 - 1993	Male/14	X

5. **GENERAL NATURE OF ALLEGATION(S):** Fondling and grabbing of body, including sexual organs. Male/14 is only forms allegation. There was alleged misconduct with others dating back to the 1970's.

6. **OTHER PROBLEMS/CONCERNS DURING MINISTRY:** None apparently according to Vicar for Priests.

7.

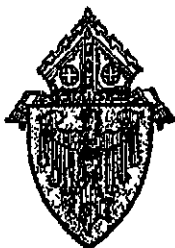
[REDACTED]

8.

[REDACTED]

Victim Statement Abstract

This abstract replaces the summary prepared by Steve Sidlowski, Professional Fitness Review Administrator for the Archdiocese of Chicago, of Victim AH's statement, given to Mr. Sidlowski on March 17, 1993, formalizing his allegation of sexual abuse against Fr. Ralph Strand. According to Victim AH's statement, he and Fr. Strand became acquainted when Victim AH was in the sixth grade and he saw Fr. Strand as a fatherly figure. Victim AH reported that when he was a freshman in high school in approximately 1990, he joined Fr. Strand at the rectory at St. Mary's parish in Des Plaines, Illinois. Fr. Strand and Victim AH cuddled and Fr. Strand fondled his genitals and performed oral sex on him.



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

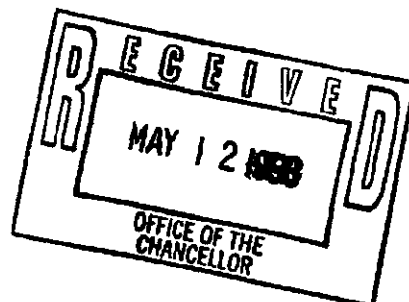
VICAR FOR PRIESTS

645 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, SUITE 543

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

Off: (312) 642-1837

Fax: (312) 642-4933



Memo

To: Rev. Thomas Paprocki

From: Rev. Patrick O'Malley

Date: 5/11/93

Re: Rev. Ralph Strand

As I understand it, I am to call Fr. Frank Burak and to tell him that we are drafting a letter that he might read at Masses on Sunday. I will draft that letter and send you a copy. If you approve, I can call Frank Burak and tell him.

I am also drafting a letter that I will send to Ralph Strand. This letter will explain the problem with the terminology in his letter of resignation. I will ask him to send it to the Cardinal with copies to Steve Sidlowski and to our own office so that it may be in his files.

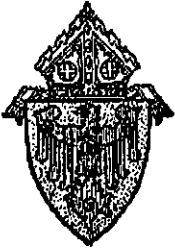
The letter that Frank Burak would read at the Sunday Masses would possibly go as follows:

DRAFT #1

To All the Parishioners at St. Francis Borgia,

This past week I received a letter from Cardinal Joseph Bernardin informing me that Fr. Ralph Strand has submitted a letter of resignation from the pastorate of St. Francis Borgia parish. Fr. Strand has voluntarily stepped aside so that the parish life may go on. The Cardinal informed me that he will now begin the process of appointing a successor for Fr. Strand. At this time I ask you to pray for our parish during these next few weeks. I ask you also to continue to pray for all those who are involved in the issue of child abuse, both victims and those who are accused. If you have any questions about this matter, don't hesitate to see me after Mass.

End of text of letter to Burak



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

645 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, SUITE 543

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

Off: (312) 642-1837

Fax: (312) 642-4833

Draft #2 - Letter to Ralph Strand

Dear Ralph,

The Cardinal was touched by your letter of resignation and your concern for the people of St. Francis Borgia parish. May I make a suggestion? I would ask that you send him a follow-up letter. In this letter, I would suggest the following text:

Dear Cardinal Bernardin,

I sent my resignation to you from the pastorate of St. Francis Borgia parish because I wanted the work and the life of St. Francis Borgia parish to go on. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I want you to know that my resignation in no way indicates any admission of guilt in the allegations made against me. It merely stresses my own willingness to step aside for the good of the parish. Please accept my resignation in the spirit in which I submit it. Thank you very much for your attention to this matter.

(End of text)

Ralph, my own feeling about this is that your resignation may have left a wrong impression. I suggest you put it on record that you did not in any way admit guilt for the allegations of sexual abuse. I'm sure that, had you consulted your attorney on the wording of your resignation, he would have made sure that you reiterated that you were in no way incriminating yourself. You are of course free to talk to your attorney on this matter. My reason for suggesting a follow-up letter in your file is that we must keep the copy of the resignation that you sent since it was accepted, but you have the right to submit clarifications. I think you should do so. If I can be of any help in this matter, please don't hesitate to call collect.

Fraternally yours,

Rev. Patrick O'Malley

St. Francis Borgia Church

8033 West Addison Street
Chicago, Illinois 60634

Telephones: (312) 625-1118 - 19

May 1, 1993

Joseph Cardinal Bernardin
Cardinal Archbishop of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Cardinal Bernardin,

I wish to thank you for the support and concern that you and your staff have given me in these past weeks. My fellow priests in the archdiocese have also been understanding and have offered help and support at every opportunity.

At this time, with deepest regrets, I feel that I must resign my pastorate at Saint Francis Borgia Parish in Chicago. I do this after much deliberation and prayer. I feel that this is the proper action at this time.

I feel deep regret over the pain that my human frailty may have caused the good people of that parish and the archdiocese. Christ's presence in His Church and love for all of us will offer us healing and growth in this situation, I pray.

I beg your prayers for myself, my family, especially my mother, and the people of Saint Francis Borgia.

In Christ,

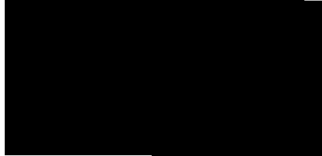

Rev. Ralph Strand

AOC 005454

MEETING OF THE REVIEW BOARD
OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO
(Minutes)

Date: January 22, 1994

Board Members Present:

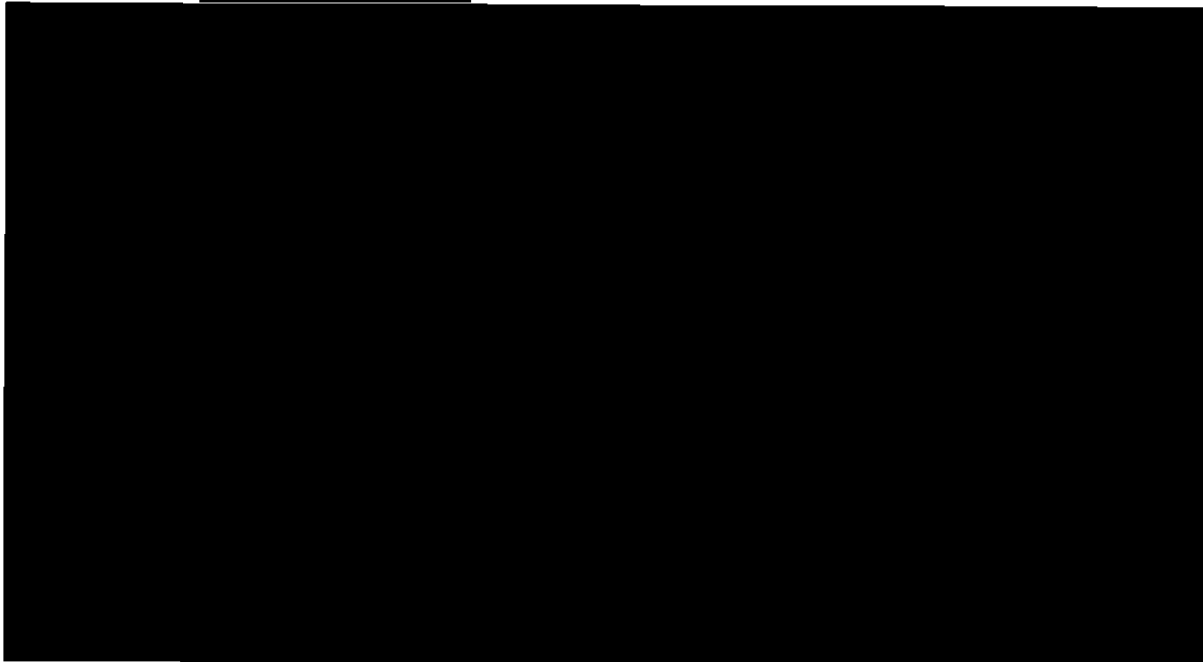


Others Present:

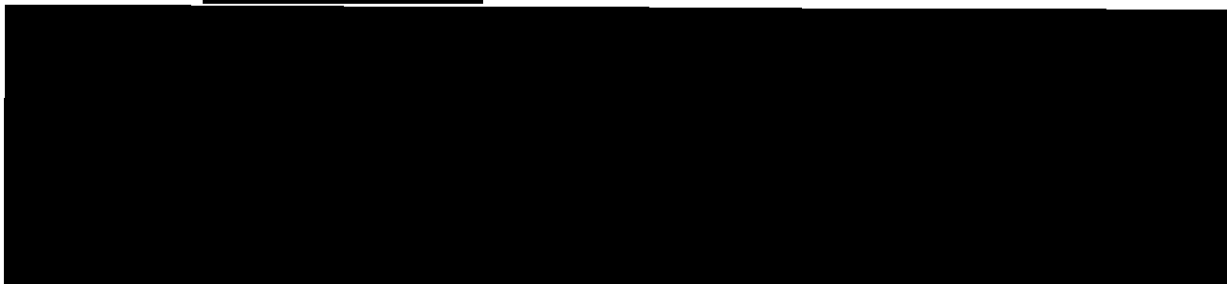
Thomas Paprocki

Steve Sidlowski

Matter of



Matter of

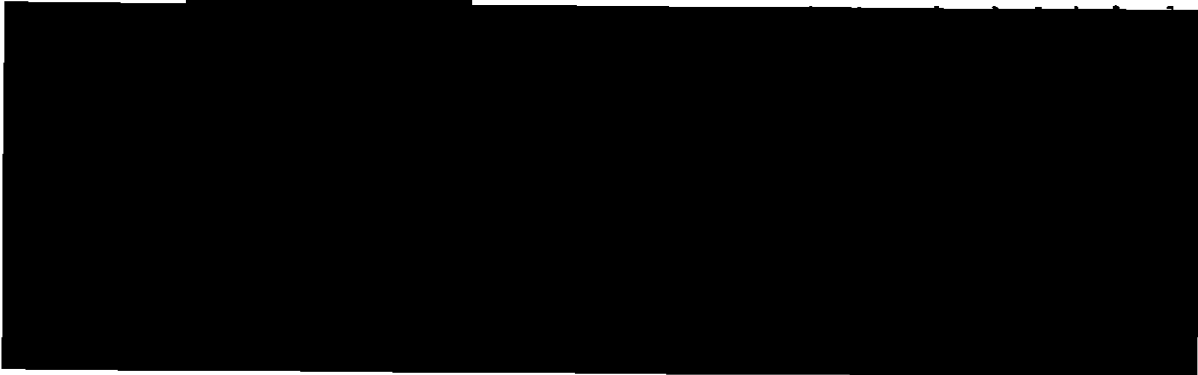


Matter of PFR-41 (R.S.):

1. The Administrator informed the Board that R.S.'s criminal trial is still pending. The Administrator noted that the Board formally delayed scheduling and continued any Second Stage Review in this matter in the Board's 7-24-93 meeting for the good reason of awaiting the outcome of the criminal trial, pursuant to Article 4.11 of the Review Process For Continuation Of Ministry.

2. The Board suggested that the Administrator might perhaps send a letter to R.S. stating that the Board formally delayed scheduling and had continued the Second Stage Review in his matter in a previous meeting (7-24-93) and that unless R.S. desires a Second Stage Review, the Board will continue to delay its scheduling until completion/outcome of his criminal trial.

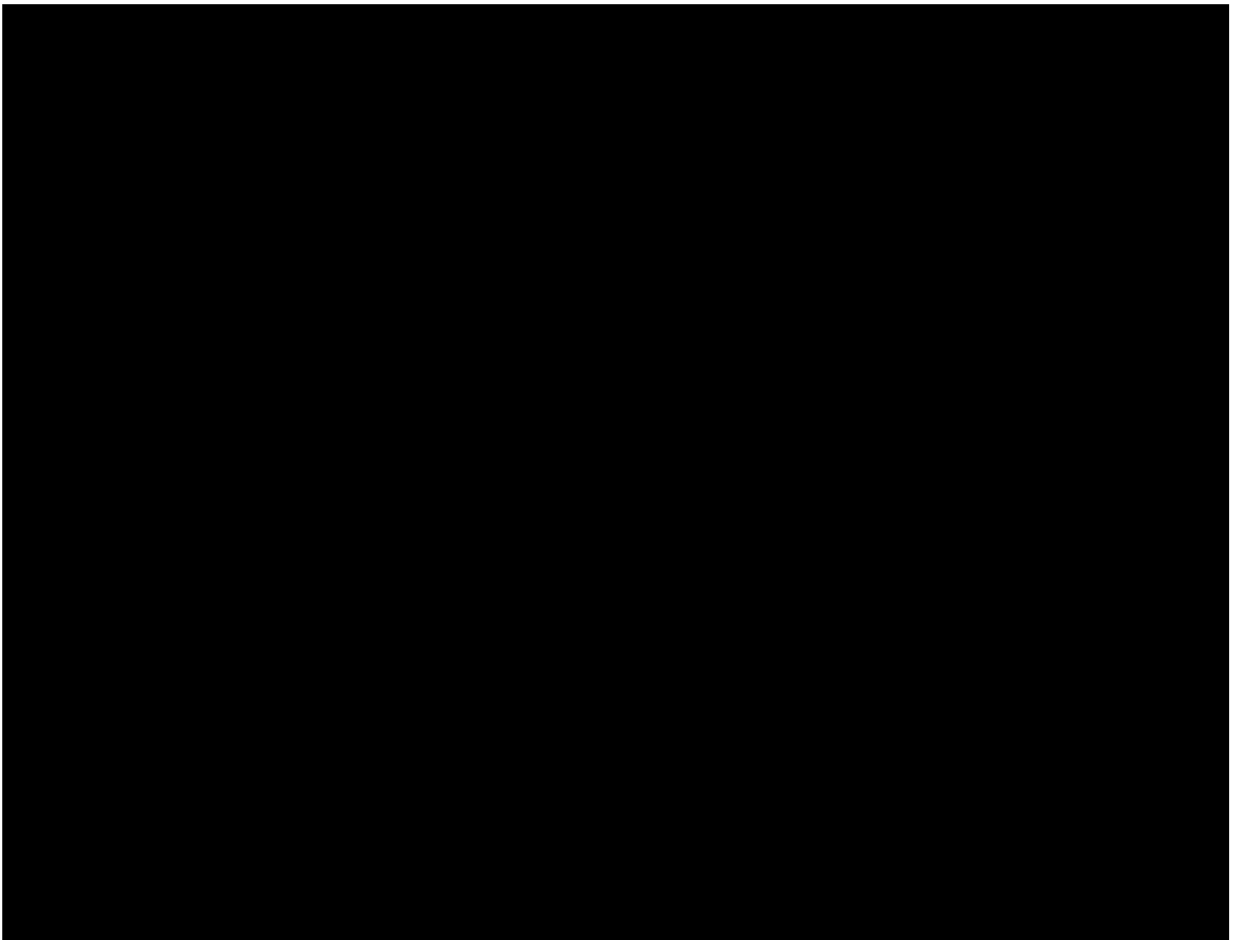
Matter of 



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]





Pursuant to Article 1.4 and 4.3(h) 6., of the Clerical Sexual Misconduct With Minors: Policies For Education, Prevention, Assistance To Victims And Procedures For Determination Of Fitness For Ministry, the Board concluded its discussion begun in the 9-18-93 meeting and continued in the 10-16-93 meeting on possible amendments to the policies and procedures which the Board believes helpful, to submit to Cardinal Bernardin. The Administrator informed the Board he will submit the proposed amendments to Cardinal Bernardin in writing (Proposed Amendments attached).

Respectfully
Submitted By
Steve Sidlowski
Administrator

Minutes Unanimously
Approved By
Review Board

MEETING OF THE REVIEW BOARD
OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO
(Minutes)

Date: March 20, 1993

Board Members Present:



Others Present:

Ralph Bonaccorsi

Thomas Paprocki
Steve Sidlowski

Matter of PFR-41 (R.S.):

1. The Board completed a First Stage Review in the PFR-41 matter pursuant to Article 4.9 of the Review Process For Continuation Of Ministry.

2. Determination: There is reasonable cause to suspect that R.S. engaged in sexual misconduct with a minor. Basis: Teenaged boy bringing allegation seemed credible and provided lengthy details as to alleged sexual misconduct, as well as R.S.'s acknowledgement of boy's identity and choice to not respond to the allegation or to provide an explanation; also, the Board seeks to ensure that minors are not at risk of sexual misconduct in the unsupervised presence of R.S. given this allegation.

3. Recommendations to the Archbishop: The decision yesterday of Cardinal Bernardin to immediately withdraw R.S. from his ministerial assignment as pastor of a parish should continue; R.S. should reside in a situation with close supervision to ensure he is not in presence of minors; arrangement should be made for R.S. to receive a psychiatric/diagnostic evaluation right away.

4. The Board directs the Administrator to immediately inform the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services that R.S. has been physically withdrawn by Cardinal Bernardin and Board has confirmed this decision, although DCFS was appropriately informed about R.S. allegation by Administrator yesterday in call to DCFS 1-800 Child Abuse Hotline Number.

Matter of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Respectfully
Submitted By
Steve Sidlowski
Administrator

Minutes Unanimously
Approved By
Review Board

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of Professional Fitness Review
676 N. St. Clair, Suite 1910
Chicago, IL 60611



(312)751-5205
1-800-994-6200
Fax (312)751-5279

Professional Fitness Review Board

Saturday, January 20, 2001

MINUTES

Board Members Present:

[REDACTED]

Board Members Absent:

[REDACTED]

Others Present: Rev. Thomas J. Paprocki, Cardinal's Delegate to the Review Board
Kathleen Leggdas, Professional Fitness Review Administrator

I. Approval of Minutes of November 18, 2000

II. Case Reviews

A. In the matter of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

B. In the matter of Rev. Ralph Strand, PFR-41

Due to inappropriate behavior with a 17 year-old while on Pilgrimage in Mexico
Review Board recommended curtailing travel and making any travel contingent upon a
pre-approved travel companion.

PFRA and Vicar for Priests to meet with Father Strand and express overall
disappointment of Board Members with his poor judgement and carelessness.

C. In the matter of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

D. In the matter of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Next regularly scheduled Board Meeting is February 17, 2001 at 10:00 a.m.

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of Professional Fitness Review
676 N. St. Clair, Suite 1910
Chicago, IL 60611



(312)751-5205
1-800-994-6200
Fax (312)751-5279

**Professional Fitness Review Board Meeting
October 16, 1999**

MINUTES

Board Members Present at the Meeting:

[REDACTED]

Others Present:

[REDACTED]

Absent:

Alberta Bowles

I. Approval of September 18, 1999 Minutes.

II. A. In the matter of PFR-41, Rev. Ralph Strand.

PFRA received a letter from [REDACTED] dated September 19, 1999. In this letter [REDACTED] vaguely recalls that he "may remember that [REDACTED] was involved in the sexual abuse as well." He [REDACTED] is very vague on any "explicit memory of abuse on the part of [REDACTED]"

The Board Members discussed this and were unable to make a determination on this allegation. The information is vague and there is no way to verify, as [REDACTED] died February 16, 1986.

Requests to concelebrate at St. Francis of Rome installation and to serve as assistant to Chaplain on two week cruise were denied. Decision is based on Individual Specific Protocol restrictions from active public ministry. Fr. Strand is encouraged to attend installation, and may wear his collar as indicated in previous protocol change.

B. In the matter of [REDACTED]

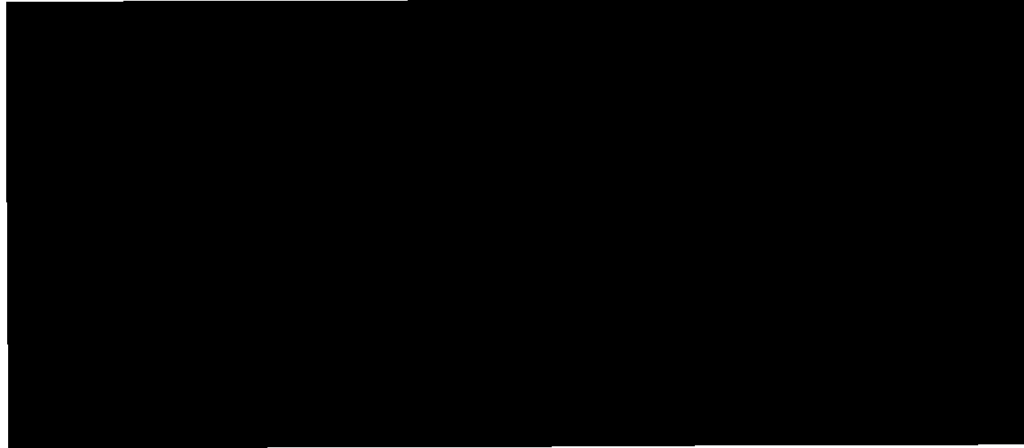
[REDACTED]

C. Matter of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

D. Matter of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



III. Other Matters.

A.



B. Meeting with Cardinal George.

- PFRA annual summary to be distributed.
- Monitoring efforts to be described

C. Protocols/Monitoring to be reviewed by Board as each are updated.

Next regularly scheduled meeting is November 20, 1999.

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of Professional Fitness Review
676 N. St. Clair, Suite 1910
Chicago, IL 60611



(312)751-5205
1-800-994-6200
Fax (312)751-5279

**Professional Fitness Review Board
September 18, 1999**

MINUTES

Board Members Present:



Board Members Absent:



Others Present:

Rev. Tom Paprocki, Cardinal's Delegate to the Review Board
Kathleen Leggdas, Professional Fitness Review Administrator

I. Approval of August 21, 1999 meeting minutes

II. Case Reviews

A. Matter of Rev Ralph Strand, PFR-41

Newly received allegation reviewed by Board. [REDACTED] alleges sexual misconduct as a minor against Father Strand.

Based on observation of PFRA and Michael Bland from VAM, as well as the following factors, the Board determined it is reasonable to conclude that allegations made concerning 7th and 8th grade are credible.

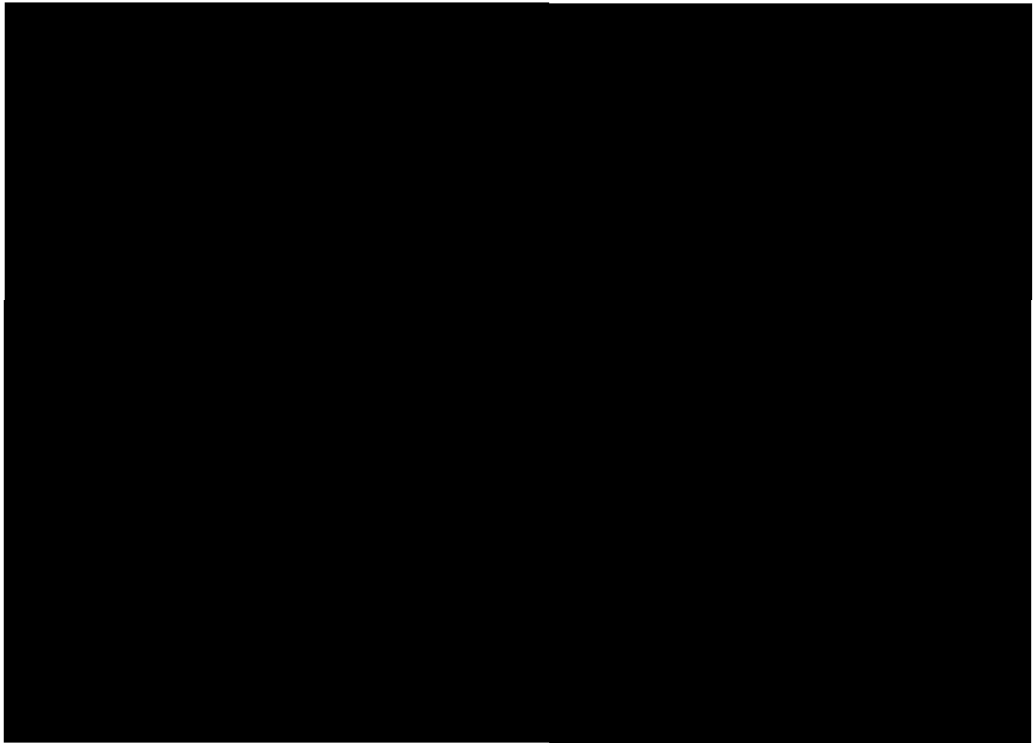
- Fr. Strand was at St. Simeon at that time and did work with the altar boys.
- Alleged behavior is consistent with previous credible allegations.
- Other altar boys named by [REDACTED] appear in previous allegations made in reference to the same time period.
- [REDACTED] description of Fr. Strand detailed and accurate.

Earlier memories are per [REDACTED] vague, and cannot be verified. Nor do alleged dates (1966 - 67) coincide with Fr. Strand's years at the parish. He was assigned to St. Simeon from 1968 - 1975.

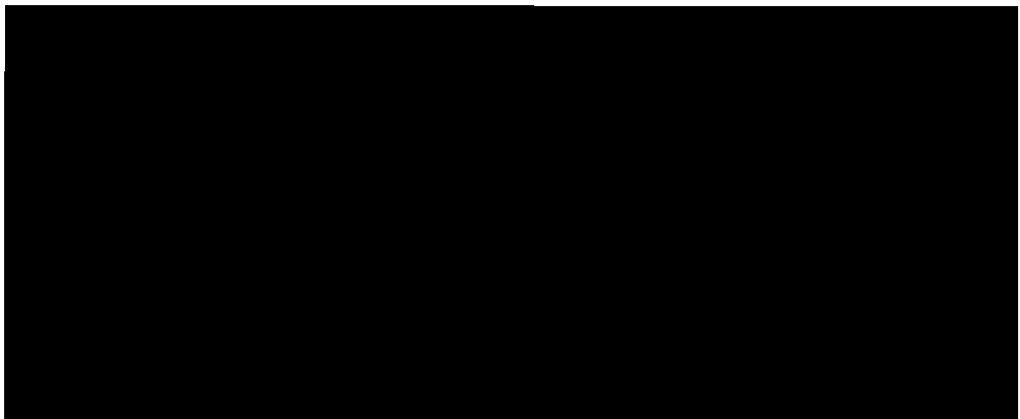
Fr. Strand recalls the name [REDACTED] Denies sodomizing any minor; denies allegation of sexual intercourse with religious and/or participation of [REDACTED]

No further recommendations made. Protocol to remain as revised at August 1999 meeting.

B. Matter of [REDACTED]



C. Matter of [REDACTED]



D. Matter of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

III. [REDACTED]

IV. Other Matters.

A. [REDACTED]

B. Cardinal George will attend the December 18, 1999 Review Board Meeting.

C. [REDACTED]

D. Three Board Members have consented to serve an additional term, per Father Paprocki:

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

Next regularly scheduled meeting is October 16, 1999.

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of Professional Fitness Review
676 N. St. Clair, Suite 1910
Chicago, IL 60611



(312)751-5205
1-800-994-6200
Fax (312)751-5279

Professional Fitness Review Board Meeting
Saturday, August 21, 1999

MINUTES

Review Board Members Present:

[REDACTED]

Others Present:

[REDACTED]

Absent:

Rev. Joseph Grembla, Rev. Charles Rubey

I. Approval of May 15, 1999 minutes.

Approval of July 17, 1999 minutes with clarification to be made in letter from Cardinal

[REDACTED]

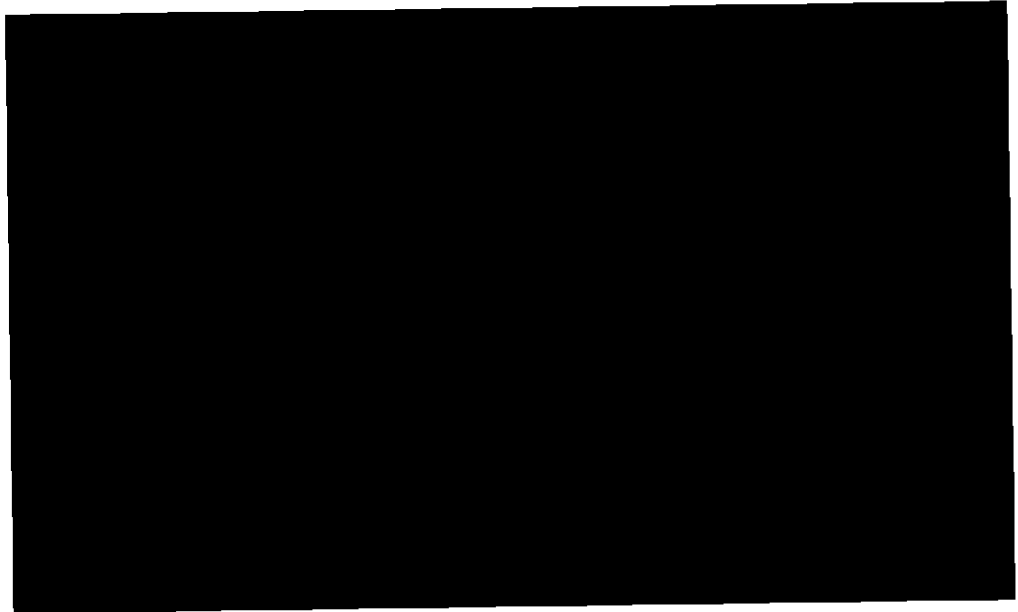
II. Case Reviews

A. Matter of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

B. Matter of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



C. Matter of PFR-41, Rev. Ralph Strand.

The Review Board considered Fr. Strand's request to change his protocol in light of the fact that he is no longer on parole. The Board has already agreed to Fr. Strand's request that he be allowed to wear his Roman collar at clergy gatherings, at wakes, and at Masses for which he has received approval to participate. The Board also agreed to reduce the frequency of calling in from twice a day to once a day. Also, his daily log should be maintained but could be less detailed than currently; the Board is mainly interested in where he is spending his evenings and staying overnight.

D. Matter of [REDACTED]



E. Matter of [REDACTED]



F. Matter of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

G. Matter of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

H. Matter of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

II. Other Matters:

Decisions of Monitoring Committee and of Individual Protocols deferred to September 18, 1999 meeting.

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of Professional Responsibility



P.O. Box 1979
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979

(312) 751-5205
Fax: (312) 751-5279

Professional Responsibility Review Board
Saturday, October 16, 2004 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Review Board Members Present:

[REDACTED]

Members absent:

[REDACTED]

Non-members present:

Leah McCluskey, Professional Responsibility Administrator [PRA]
Rev. Daniel Smilanic, Cardinal's Delegate to the Review Board

A handwritten signature in ink, likely of Leah McCluskey, enclosed in a circle.

I. Approval of Minutes - September 18, 2004

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

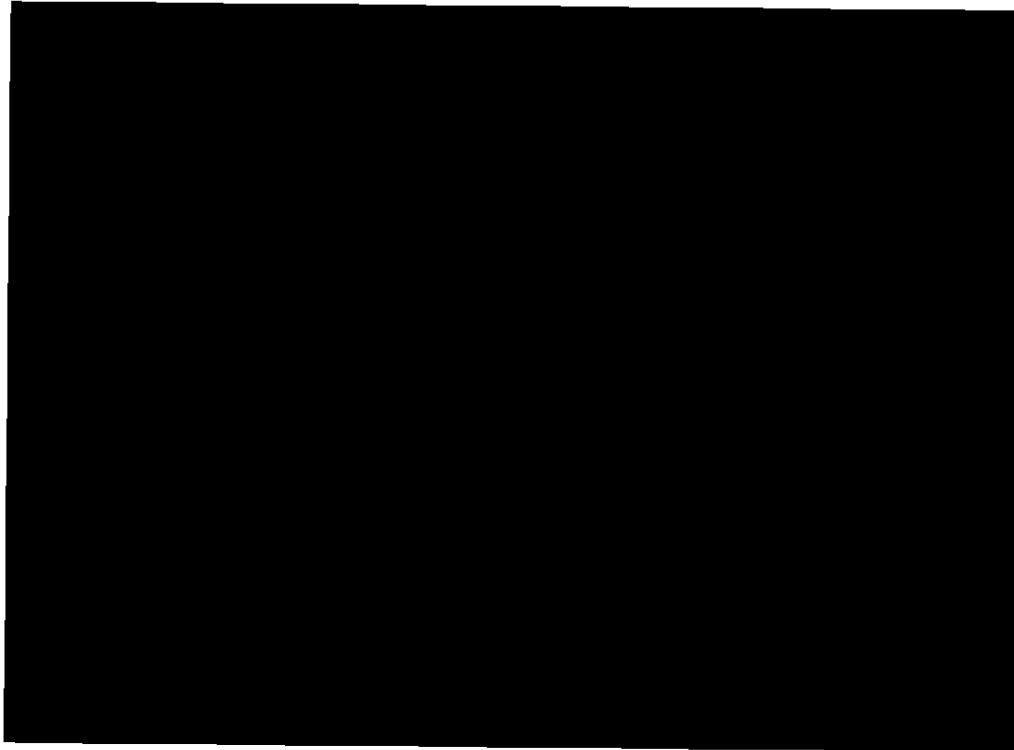
- Fr. Smilanic informed Board members that Cardinal George would be present at the November 20, 2004 Board meeting to swear in the new members [two; social work and attorney positions]
- All Board members will be invited to a late lunch beginning immediately after the November 20th meeting to honor recently retired members, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] as well as to welcome two new members

II. Case Reviews

Initial Review

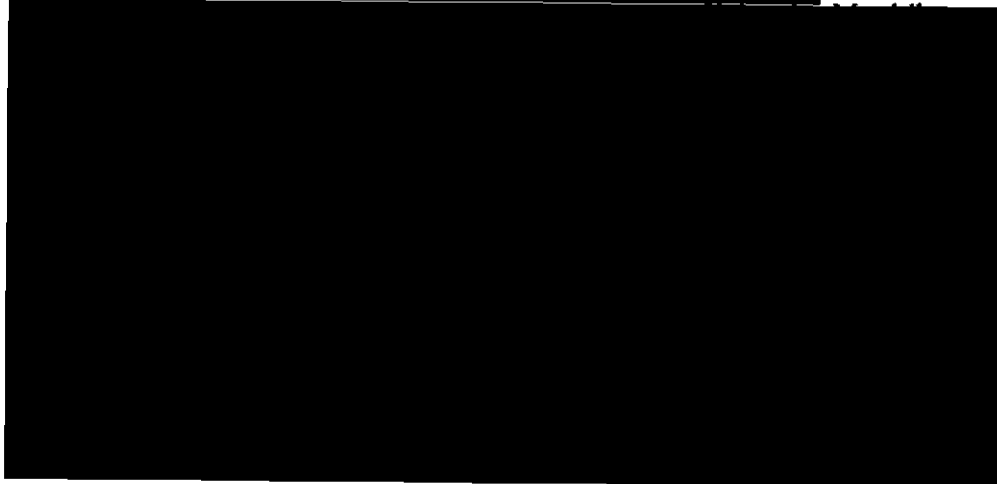
A. In the Matter of

[REDACTED]



B. In the Matter of

[REDACTED]



C. In the Matter of Rev. Ralph Strand [Withdrawn 1993] - PFR - 41

The Review Board conducted an Initial Review regarding the allegation made by [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The claim is as follows: fondling and groping [at least 50xs, less than 100xs].

In a 5-0 vote, in light of the information presented, the Board determined that this matter warrants additional investigation. The Board also made the following recommendations:

- That PRA attempt to determine the specifics of the incidents of abuse as well as approximate time frames for the incidents and who may have been present. For example, PRA to obtain additional information regarding the specifics of the laundry room incident referenced in [REDACTED] allegation; additional specifics of the incident when [REDACTED] and other 8th graders confronted Fr. Strand.
- That PRA request a copy of [REDACTED] attorney intake form where he detailed the incidents of abuse by Fr. Strand [as referenced in [REDACTED] allegation].
- That PRA attempt to speak with Sr. [REDACTED] regarding Fr. Strand.
- That PRA speak with Fr. Strand and ask if he recalls behaving inappropriately around minors at any time while at St. Simeon.

In the Matter of Rev. Ralph Strand [Withdrawn 1993] - PFR - 41

The Review Board conducted an Initial Review regarding the allegation made by [REDACTED]. The claim is as follows: kissing, touching, grabbing genitals and buttocks through the clothes, fondling, chasing, and tackling.

In a 5-0 vote, in light of the information presented, the Board determined that this matter warrants additional investigation. The Board also made the following recommendations:

- That PRA attempt to determine the specifics of the incidents of abuse as well as approximate time frames for the incidents and who may have been present. For example, additional specifics of the incident when [REDACTED] and other 8th graders confronted Fr. Strand.
- That PRA attempt to speak with Sr. [REDACTED] regarding Fr. Strand.
- That PRA attempt to speak with Rev. [REDACTED] regarding Fr. Strand.
- That PRA attempt to obtain names of other children in school in the group with [REDACTED] who were given attention by Fr. Strand.
- That PRA speak with Fr. Strand and ask if he recalls behaving inappropriately around minors at any time while at St. Simeon.

In the Matter of Rev. Ralph Strand [Withdrawn 1993] - PFR - 41

The Review Board conducted an Initial Review regarding the allegation made by [REDACTED]. The claim is as follows: touching, groping at buttocks, Fr. Strand sticking his fingers in [REDACTED] mouth while giving communion.

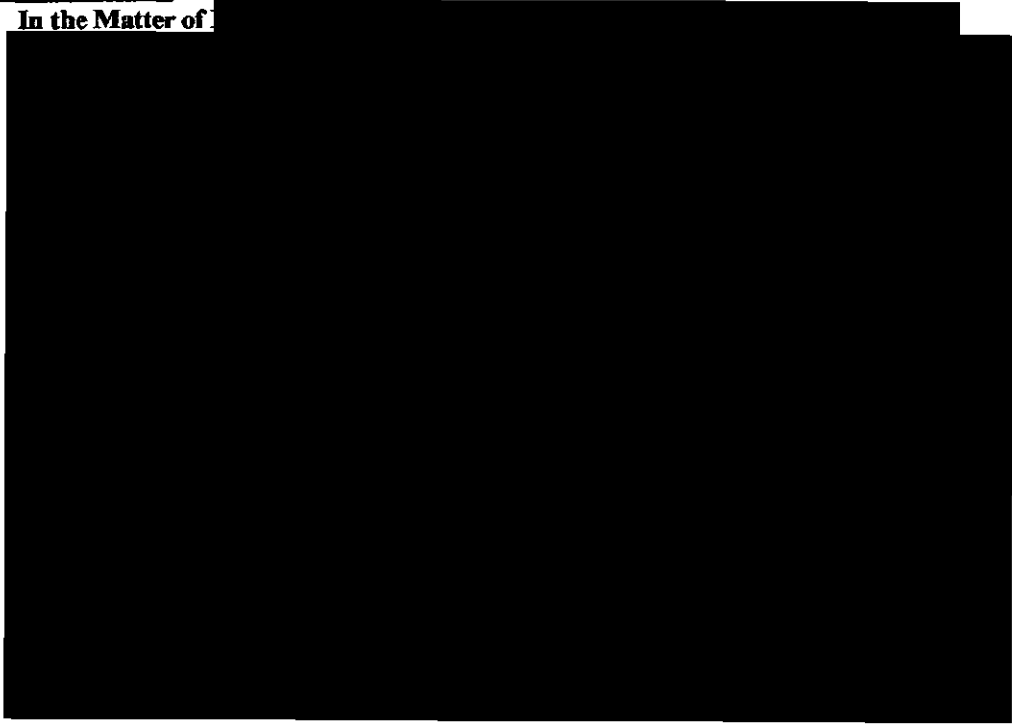
In a 5-0 vote, in light of the information presented, the Board determined that this matter warrants additional investigation. The Board also made the following recommendations:

- That PRA attempt to determine the specifics of the incidents of abuse as well as approximate time frames for the incidents and who may have been present. For example, additional specifics of the incident when [REDACTED] and other 8th graders confronted Fr. Strand.
- That PRA attempt to speak with Sr. [REDACTED] regarding Fr. Strand.
- That PRA attempt to speak with Rev. [REDACTED] regarding Fr. Strand.
- That PRA attempt to obtain names of other children in school in the group with [REDACTED] who were given attention by Fr. Strand.

- That PRA speak with Fr. Strand and ask if he recalls behaving inappropriately around minors at any time while at St. Simeon.

Review for Cause

A. In the Matter of



*Next scheduled meeting is November 20, 2004 at 9:00 a.m.
Lunch will take place immediately following the meeting at the Caliterra Bar and Grille*

Cc: Review Board Members
Rev. Daniel A. Smilanic, Cardinal's Delegate to the Review Board
Rev. James T. Kaczorowski, Vicar for Priests
Rev. Edward D. Grace, Vicar for Priests
Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I.

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of Professional Responsibility



P.O. Box 1979
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979

(312) 751-5205
Fax: (312) 751-5279
www.archchicago.org

Professional Responsibility Review Board Saturday, April 16, 2005 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Review Board Members Present:

[REDACTED]

Members absent:

[REDACTED]

Non-members present:

Leah McCluskey, Professional Responsibility Administrator [PRA]
Rev. Daniel Smilanic, Cardinal's Delegate to the Review Board



I. Approval of Minutes – April 9, 2005

- Unanimously approved 6-0 [Fr. Rubey not yet at meeting]

II. Case Reviews

Review for Cause

A. In the Matter of

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

B. In the Matter of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

In the Matter of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

C. In the Matter of Rev. Ralph Strand [Withdrawn 1993] – PFR - 41

The Review Board conducted a Review for Cause regarding the allegation made by [REDACTED]. The claim is as follows: kissing, touching, grabbing genitals and buttocks through clothing; fondling, chasing, and tackling.

In a 6-0 vote [REDACTED] needed to leave the meeting at this point in time] in light of the information presented, the Board determined that there is reasonable cause to suspect that the alleged misconduct occurred. Further, the Board recommends that Fr. Strand's withdrawal from ministry continues as well as the current restrictions and monitoring imposed in accord with Archdiocesan policies and procedures.

In the Matter of Rev. Ralph Strand [Withdrawn 1993] – PFR - 41

The Review Board conducted a Review for Cause regarding the allegation made by [REDACTED]. The claim is as follows: touching and groping at buttocks; Fr. Strand stuck his fingers in [REDACTED] mouth while administering the Eucharist during mass.

In a 5-1 vote in light of the information presented, the Board determined that there is reasonable cause to suspect that the alleged misconduct occurred. Further, the Board recommends that Fr. Strand's withdrawal from ministry continues as well as the current restrictions and monitoring imposed in accord with Archdiocesan policies and procedures.

In the Matter of Rev. Ralph Strand [Withdrawn 1993] – PFR - 41

The Review Board conducted a Review for Cause regarding the allegation made by [REDACTED]. The claim is as follows: fondling and groping; more than 50 incidents and less than 100.

In a 6-0 vote in light of the information presented, the Board determined that there is reasonable cause to suspect that the alleged misconduct occurred. Further, the Board recommends that Fr. Strand's withdrawal from ministry continues as well as the current restrictions and monitoring imposed in accord with Archdiocesan policies and procedures.

III. Other Matters:

- Reminder that [REDACTED] will not be present for the scheduled May 21, 2005 Review Board Meeting.

Next scheduled meeting is Saturday, May 21, 2005 at 9:00 a.m.

Cc: Review Board Members
Rev. Daniel A. Smilanic, Cardinal's Delegate to the Review Board
Rev. James T. Kaczorowski, Vicar for Priests
Rev. Edward D. Grace, Vicar for Priests
Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I.

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of Professional Fitness Review
676 N. St. Clair, Suite 1910
Chicago, IL 60611



(312)751-5205
1-800-994-6200
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Professional Fitness Review Board
September 18, 1999

MINUTES

Board Members Present:



Board Members Absent:



Others Present:

Rev. Tom Paprocki, Cardinal's Delegate to the Review Board
Kathleen Leggdas, Professional Fitness Review Administrator

I. Approval of August 21, 1999 meeting minutes

II. Case Reviews

A. Matter of Rev Ralph Strand, PFR-41

Newly received allegation reviewed by Board. [REDACTED] alleges sexual misconduct as a minor against Father Strand.

Based on observation of PFRA and Michael Bland from VAM, as well as the following factors, the Board determined it is reasonable to conclude that allegations made concerning 7th and 8th grade are credible.

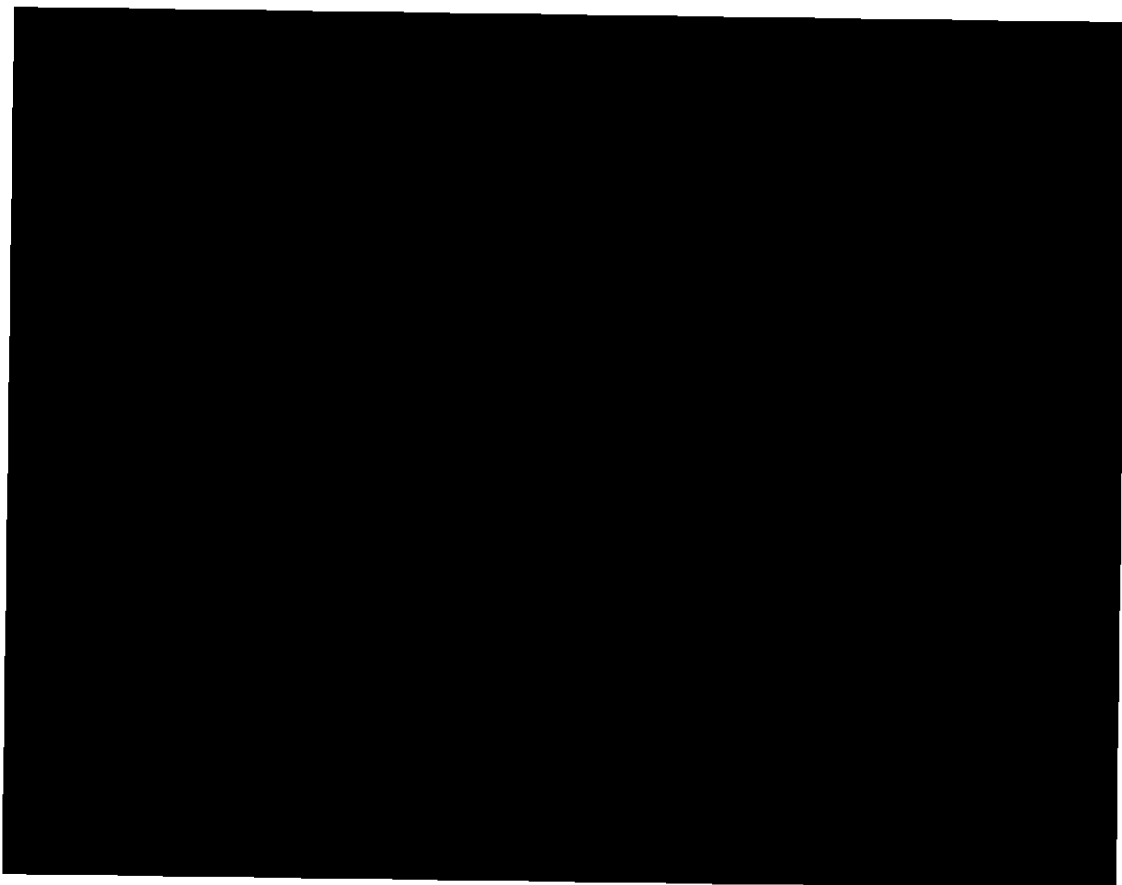
- Fr. Strand was at St. Simeon at that time and did work with [REDACTED]
- Alleged behavior is consistent with previous credible allegations.
- Other [REDACTED] named by [REDACTED] appear in previous allegations made in reference to the same time period.
- [REDACTED] description of Fr. Strand detailed and accurate.

Earlier memories are per Mr. [REDACTED] vague, and cannot be verified. Nor do alleged dates (1966 - 67) coincide with Fr. Strand's years at the parish. He was assigned to St. Simeon from 1968 - 1975.

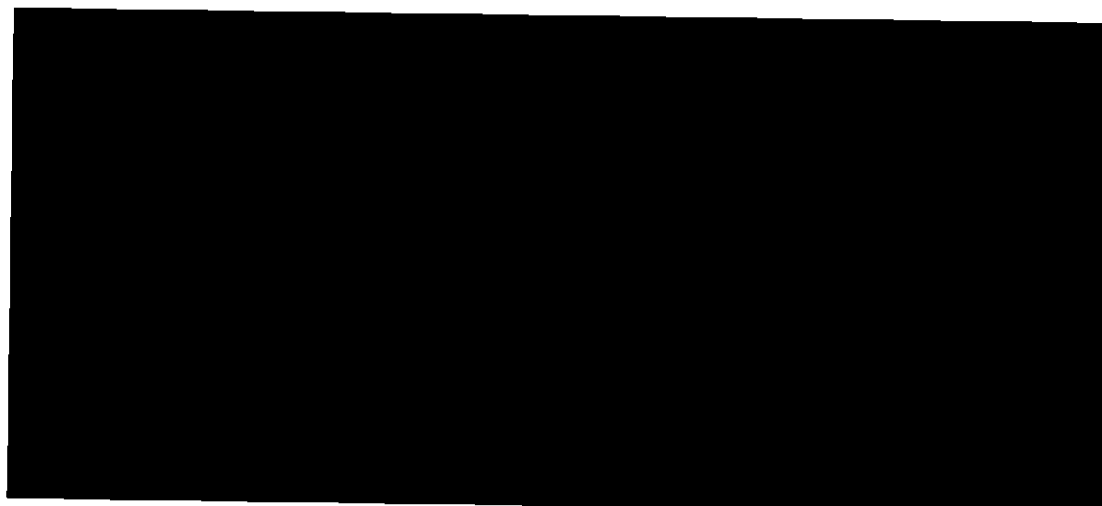
Fr. Strand recalls the name [REDACTED] Denies sodomizing any minor; denies allegation of sexual intercourse with religious and/or participation of [REDACTED]

No further recommendations made. Protocol to remain as revised at August 1999 meeting.

B.



C.



ADDITIONAL ALLEGATIONS AGAINST ACCUSED

Name of accuser: [REDACTED]

Date of Birth: [REDACTED]

Current age: 47

Name of civil attorney:

Date allegation received: 8/24/99

Date allegation formalized: 8/24/99

Date of initial incident of alleged abuse: 1965

Date of last incident of alleged abuse: 1967

Approximate number of incidents of alleged abuse: several

Brief summary of alleged abuse: touching, grabbing genitals through clothing, sodomy
– Fr. Strand charged and convicted of crime for other abuse

Brief summary and date of response from accused:

Stage of disposition by Review Board: 8/99—concluded; Based on observation of PFRA and Michael Bland from VAM, as well as the following factors, the Board determined it is reasonable to conclude that allegations made [against Fr. Strand] concerning 7th and 8th grade are credible

Additional allegations made by accuser: None

Signature of Director:



Date:

4/12/07

Office of Professional Responsibility

P.O. Box 1979
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979(312) 751-5205
Fax: (312) 751-5279**MEMORANDUM**

To: File – PFR-41

From: Review Board Meeting

Re: Strand, Ralph (Withdrawn) [REDACTED]

Date: October 16, 2004

A summary of the conversation from the Professional Responsibility Review Board Meeting on October 16, 2004:

The Review Board conducted an Initial Review regarding the allegation made by [REDACTED].
The claim is as follows: touching, groping at buttocks, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

In a 5-0 vote, in light of the information presented, the Board determined that this matter warrants additional investigation. The Board also made the following recommendations:

- That PRA attempt to determine the specifics of the incidents of abuse as well as approximate time frames for the incidents and who may have been present. For example, additional specifics of the incident when Mr. [REDACTED] and other [REDACTED] graders confronted Fr. Strand.
- That PRA attempt to speak with Sr. [REDACTED] regarding Fr. Strand.
- That PRA attempt to speak with Rev. Frank Cerniglia regarding Fr. Strand.
- That PRA attempt to obtain names of other children in school in the group with Mr. [REDACTED] who were given attention by Fr. Strand.
- That PRA speak with Fr. Strand and ask if he recalls behaving inappropriately around minors at any time while at St. Simeon.

**MEMORANDUM**

To: File – PFR-41

From: Review Board Meeting

Re: Strand, Ralph (Withdrawn) [REDACTED]

Date: October 16, 2004

A summary of the conversation from the Professional Responsibility Review Board Meeting on October 16, 2004:

The Review Board conducted an Initial Review regarding the allegation made by [REDACTED]. The claim is as follows: kissing, touching, grabbing genitals and buttocks through the clothes, fondling, chasing, and tackling.

In a 5-0 vote, in light of the information presented, the Board determined that this matter warrants additional investigation. The Board also made the following recommendations:

- That PRA attempt to determine the specifics of the incidents of abuse as well as approximate time frames for the incidents and who may have been present. For example, additional specifics of the incident when Mr. [REDACTED] and other [REDACTED] graders confronted Fr. Strand.
- That PRA attempt to speak with Sr. [REDACTED] regarding Fr. Strand.
- That PRA attempt to speak with Rev. Frank Cerniglia regarding Fr. Strand.
- That PRA attempt to obtain names of other children in school in the group with Mr. [REDACTED] who were given attention by Fr. Strand.
- That PRA speak with Fr. Strand and ask if he recalls behaving inappropriately around minors at any time while at St. Simeon.

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

COPY

Office of Professional Responsibility



P.O. Box 1979
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979

(312) 751-5205
Fax: (312) 751-5279

MEMORANDUM

To: File – PFR-41
From: Review Board Meeting
Re: Strand, Ralph (Withdrawn) [REDACTED]
Date: October 16, 2004

A summary of the conversation from the Professional Responsibility Review Board Meeting on October 16, 2004:

The Review Board conducted an Initial Review regarding the allegation made by [REDACTED]. The claim is as follows: fondling and groping [at least 50xs, less than 100xs].

In a 5-0 vote, in light of the information presented, the Board determined that this matter warrants additional investigation. The Board also made the following recommendations:

- That PRA attempt to determine the specifics of the incidents of abuse as well as approximate time frames for the incidents and who may have been present. For example, PRA to obtain additional information regarding the specifics of the laundry room incident referenced in Mr. [REDACTED] allegation; additional specifics of the incident when Mr. [REDACTED] and other [REDACTED] graders confronted Fr. Strand.
- That PRA request a copy of Mr. [REDACTED] attorney intake form where he detailed the incidents of abuse by Fr. Strand [as referenced in Mr. [REDACTED] allegation].
- That PRA attempt to speak with Sr. [REDACTED] regarding Fr. Strand.
- That PRA speak with Fr. Strand and ask if he recalls behaving inappropriately around minors at any time while at St. Simeon.

AOC 005485

03/16/04 10:30am P. 001

8127515381

ARCHCH60

STRAND, Ralph S.

Date of birth

Ordained

Apr. 30, 1964

Nationality Polish - Polish

Date Appointed	Assignment	Charge	Date Left
6-25-64	St. Eugene	Asst.	5/31/68
5/31/68	St. Simeon (Bellwood)	Assistant	6/75
6/11/75	St. Thecla	Associate	6/81
6/8/81	St. Francis Borgia	"	6-10-86
6-10-86	St. Mary (Duoblaime)	Associate	8/1/91
8/1/91	St. Francis Borgia	Pastor	3/22/93
3/22/93	ALOA		



Extraordinary Appointments

FD:

St. Mary Ann

AOC 005486



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

645 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, SUITE 543

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

Trial date - 6/26/95

Off: (312) 642-1837
Fax: (312) 642-4933

5/19/95
Ralph Strand

Open
Some ideas for our discussion with Ralph at 12:15
If I'm not at Carol Fowler's at 11:00 AM sharp, start
without me. Remember Strand backs here at 12:15

. Fr. Strand will be given a copy of the protocol regarding funding from the Archdiocese for attorney's fees. A copy is also available for his attorney.

. Fr. Strand will make his own decision about whether to go to trial or to take a plea bargain.

Some of the possible ramifications others may not appreciate:

. The trial will be public. The church will be affected. The priesthood will once again come under heavy scrutiny and possible criticism. There is a budding scandal with a Brother in Cicero that may well hit the press in the next few days. The St. Atty. office and DCFS have been informed.

. Given the climate and the less than benign attitude of the courts (witness Mayer), what are the real chances of getting an acquittal? Tuite was confident about Mayer - Mayer lost.

. Will Ralph go on the stand in his own defense? If put under oath, will questions be asked concerning his previous problems? Our VP records have never been subpoenaed in this matter thus far. We think they could be. ~~could state go into your past so as~~
~~to~~

. If found guilty in a trial, what will that mean in terms of any future ministry? If he plea bargains, what will that mean in terms of any potential future ministry? We don't know the answer to this at this time. Much would depend on the issue of public scandal.

. If found innocent in a trial, will he then be simply returned to ministry? No, the Church's standards for fitness for ministry must be higher than the state's who have to prove guilt beyond a shadow of a doubt. Because of a reasonable suspicion that children are in danger and that these things did occur, the church will have to proceed with assessment, treatment, the whole



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process with the PFRBD.

. Does your attorney know about 2 additional young men who came forward to PFRBD at the time of the allegations, but did not pursue anything further? Will they re-appear if the case becomes public?

. If the family is put through a trial, whether they win or lose, their disposition to demand damages from the Archdiocese might heighten, feeling that they have put through an additional wringer and have been re-victimized.

. If there is a public trial, is there the possibility that others might come forward to the St. Atty. office. Though the statute of limitations may have run, would these others be able to give input to the St. Atty. for the trial? Especially if you got on the stand in your own defense?



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VICAR FOR PRIESTS

645 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, SUITE 543

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

Off: (312) 642-1837
Fax: (312) 642-4933

Memo

Re: Ralph Strand

5/13/95

. 1986 - threatened civil suit - [REDACTED] - admitted sexual activity with him - Boy said he was 21, seems to have been a year or two younger, about 19.

. Also admitted at that time to two other long term homosexual relationships but none with minors.

. Denied being involved with youths.

. 3/17/93 VP gets call from teacher at Loyola - referred to PFRA. A now adult male claims, when he was a minor, he had a sexual relationship with Ralph. Ralph withdrawn immediately.

. 3/20/93 - PFRBD concurs with initial action of withdrawal based on allegations presented.

. 3/22/93 - in light of allegations and response of the PFRBD, Cardinal pofficially withdraws Ralph.

. 5/5/93 - Ralph resigns from pastorate.

. 5/6/93 - PFRA receives call from a former attorney who says that, in the 80's, he handled a case for the public defender's office in which a [REDACTED], later convicted of a chopping up murder, was arrested with a [REDACTED] (with whom [REDACTED] was sexually involved at the moment of arrest). [REDACTED] claims he could not have been accessory to the murder because on that date and time he was involved sexually with Fr. Strand.

. 5/26/93 - Strand indicted on sexual assault charges alleging he engaged in sexual acts with a male student over a 3 year period - from the time when the student was 15.

[REDACTED]

. Have others come forward against Strand?



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

645 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, SUITE 543

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

Off: (312) 642-1837

Fax: (312) 642-4933

Memo to File

From: Rev. Patrick O'Malley

Date: 5/14/93

Re: Ralph Strand

I spoke to Ralph Strand [REDACTED] on Wednesday evening, May 12. I relayed to him our message about the follow-up letter to his resignation letter to the Cardinal.

I asked him to send a clarifying letter to the Cardinal.
[REDACTED]

I told him what little I knew about the pending indictment. As far as I can tell, it won't come down for another week or two. I mentioned to him the call that was received on the 1 - 800 number concerning a man named [REDACTED]. In the course of our conversation, I asked Strand if he had received the full physical examination and whether all aspects of his condition had been dealt with. He said he was quite sure he had the tests, but he would get that information back to me as soon as possible. He does not believe that the previous contact entailed any danger of disease.

With regard to allowing the name of the first person he had a liaison with to be released to the State's Attorney's Office, Strand said he would ask his lawyer. His lawyer, Brent Stratton, would consult with [REDACTED] if there is need to look into this.



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645 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, SUITE 543

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

Off: (312) 642-1837

Fax: (312) 642-4933

5/12/93

Dear Ralph,

The Cardinal was touched by your letter of resignation and your evident concern for the people of St. Francis Borgia parish. May I make a suggestion? I would ask that you send him a follow-up letter. In this letter, I would suggest something like the following text:

Dear Cardinal Bernardin,

I sent you my resignation from the pastorate of St. Francis Borgia parish because I wanted the important ministry and life of St. Francis Borgia parish to go on. I realize that I will be [REDACTED] for quite a while.

I want you to know that my resignation in no way indicates any admission of guilt in the allegations made against me. It merely stresses my own willingness to step aside for the good of the parish. Please accept my resignation in the spirit in which I submit it. Thank you very much again for your support.

Ralph, my own feeling about this is that your resignation may have left a wrong impression. I suggest you put it on record that you did not in any way admit guilt for the allegations of sexual abuse. I'm sure that, had you consulted your attorney on the wording of your resignation he would have made sure that you reiterated that you were in no way incriminating yourself. You are of course free to talk to your attorney on this matter. My reason for suggesting a follow-up letter in your file is that we must keep the copy of the resignation that you sent since it was accepted, but you have the right to submit clarifications. I recommend that you do so. If I can be of any help in this matter, please don't hesitate to call collect.

Fraternally yours,

Rev. Patrick O'Malley

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



TO: Rev. Pat O'Malley, Vicar for Priests

FROM: Steve Sidlowski, Professional Fitness
Review Administrator

DATE: May 6, 1993

RE: Referral of Information to Vicar for Priests' Office

I am referring information to your Office regarding a phone call and meeting with a person who had information regarding an adult acquaintance of the Rev. Ralph Strand. Apparently, the other adult has since died. The person I have spoken to stressed that he would like confidentiality respected as much as possible. He does not want his name used in regard to matters involving Rev. Ralph Strand if at all possible.

I clarified for this person that in my role as the Professional Fitness Review Administrator, I receive, make inquiries into, and process allegations of sexual misconduct by priests involving minors. As this person is bringing no such allegation against a priest directed toward himself neither as a minor nor as an adult, nor any other alleged minor victim, and rather has made reference to this other, deceased adult acquaintance of Ralph Strand, I have concluded that this information should be appropriately referred to the Vicar for Priests' Office.

Please note the enclosed memo entitled "Phone call from [REDACTED]: 4-28-93," first. Today I met briefly with Mr. [REDACTED] as well. He stressed that his information is not germane to sexual misconduct with minors by Rev. Strand and that nothing ever happened to himself in particular which could be considered sexual. Mr. [REDACTED] noted that as an attorney in the Cook County Public Defender's Office in the 1980's, he represented a criminal defendant who was eventually convicted. An adult acquaintance of that defendant explained as an alibi in record Mr. [REDACTED] had access to at that time, that the defendant's adult acquaintance could not have been in the defendant's presence at the time of the crime because on that date and time he was involved sexually with Ralph Strand. The defendant later told Mr. [REDACTED] that Ralph Strand was a "lover" of the defendant's adult acquaintance and that the defendant, his adult acquaintance, and Ralph Strand would often go to "gay bars" together.

The defendant was a [REDACTED]. His adult acquaintance was a [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] was convicted of murder - of chopping up a victim's body and putting it in eight garbage bags and placing the

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



-2-

body parts in a dumpster. [REDACTED] was apparently involved sexually with [REDACTED] at the moment the police broke into his apartment to arrest him. As a result, [REDACTED] was questioned by police at length and then later gave the Strand alibi. Apparently, [REDACTED] has since died of AIDS.



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Off: (312) 642-1837

Fax: (312) 642-4933

NOTES TO STEVE SIDLOWSKI ON 3/20/93

1. I spoke to Father S. on Sat. morning. I also visited him. In answer to his fear of something happening while he was at his Mother's house, I called the Retreat House and they graciously said they would take him in for a short while [REDACTED] So he is now at the Cardinal Stritch Retreat House at [REDACTED].
2. I visited with Fr. Burek and outlined for him what I think might happen. He had already talked to you so I just backed up what you had said. I did tell him to inform the principal and DRE over the weekend since they might be the first people the DCFS contacts.
— PRIVATE PHONE — [REDACTED]
3. I visited Fr. Rosemeyer at St. Mary's and did the same thing as with Burek. He too is getting ready for the meeting with the leadership people.
— PRIVATE PHONE — [REDACTED]
4. I spoke with Fr. Ognibene as well just lending support and expressing my own fear that the former principal may cause trouble. There may be a strategy we can work out for that, working with Ralph Bonaccorsi. This Sister Maureen's new pastor is Fr. Steve Tebes. Tebes has experience in withdrawals since this is the place Ruge was withdrawn from.
5. Fr. S. has tried to contact a lawyer without success. He would like to make a response to the allegations but he feels that he would want to speak to an attorney first. He will contact his attorney on Monday morning. He would like you to make this fact known to the Fitness Review Board on Saturday afternoon.
6. I spoke to Fr. S. about the possibility - nothing more - of going to St. Luke's in Suitland, Md. for an assessment. I told him you would be in touch on that matter.



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7. It seems some of the next steps are:
- . set up two parish leadership meetings for this coming week;
 - . decide whether there ought to be a bulletin announcement;
 - . form two archdiocesan intervention teams for next Saturday evening/Sunday;
 - . prepare formal press response for when/if this hits the paper;
-
-



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS
800 NORTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 311
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610

Off: (312) 642-1837

TO: CARDINAL BERNARDIN
FROM: REV. RAYMOND GOEDERT
DATE: JUNE 28, 1991
RE: RALPH STRAND

1. I received word from the Personnel Board that you had approved the appointment of Ralph Strand to the pastorate of St. Francis Borgia. Inasmuch as I had not been advised previously that Ralph was applying for parishes, I was not in a position to say anything.

2. Be that as it may, I would not want you to be unaware that there was a problem in Ralph's past. While I do not think it necessarily means withdrawing Ralph's appointment, I would feel better if you had the information before you make the appointment final.

4. As background for you, I am enclosing copies of Tom's memos of 2/12/86 and 3/28/86 as well as my own memos of 6/25-27/91. I tried to reach Ralph Strand myself today

Unfortunately, Ralph went on vacation and is not due back for another week.

5. I would recommend the following steps: A) I suggest that you call Ralph in, explain your concerns and ask him point blank if he has had any problems whatever in the last five years or so. B) If Ralph admits to any lapses, or if you yourself are still in doubt.



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS
800 NORTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 311
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610

Off: (312) 642-1837

TO: FILE
DATE: JUNE 25, 1991
RE: RALPH STRAND

1. I checked over Ralph's file, as the Personnel Board has presented his name to the Cardinal for the appointment to the pastorate of St. Francis Borgia. I spoke to Ed Fialkowski and indicated to him my reservations about this appointment. Inasmuch as the Cardinal has already approved it, I told Ed that I would contact Ken Velo and try to alert the Cardinal to the difficulties before he makes the appointment public.



JUNE 26, 1991

1. I spoke to Paul Rosemeyer today. Ralph has been his associate for a number of years and Paul had been informed of the nature of his difficulty when he was first appointed. Paul said that Ralph has manifested no inappropriate behavior whatever. He has no reason for thinking that Ralph has continued to act out a homosexual lifestyle. Paul felt that, based on Ralph's service at St. Mary's in DesPlaines, he would have no reason whatever for withholding a pastorate from him.

JUNE 27, 1991



AOC 005497



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

March 28, 1986

Vicar for Priests
800 North Clark Street, Suite 311
Chicago, Illinois 60611
Off. (312) 642-1837
Res: (312) 528-0540

TO: File
FROM: Tom Ventura
RE: Ralph Strand

1. Bishop T. Lyne informed me that [REDACTED] talked with him for one hour by phone, stating that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Fr. Strand had assaulted him sexually for a two year period (from approximately Feb. 1983 to June 1985, ie. from age 19 to 22), [REDACTED]

2. Bishop Lyne arranged a meeting between [REDACTED] himself and Fr. Ventura at 8:15 PM at the Cathedral Rectory (after Good Friday services) for the purpose of hearing [REDACTED] story and, if necessary, preparing a report for the Cardinal.

3. Fr. Ralph Strand phoned to say that [REDACTED] had left a message with the parish secretary informing him that he was to meet Bishop Lyne and the Cardinal on Good Friday evening.

5. Fr. Ventura met with Bishop Lyne at 8:15 PM on March 28, 1986 at the Cathedral Rectory. We waited until 9:15 PM but [REDACTED] never appeared.

AOC 005498

OFFICE OF THE STATE'S ATTORNEY
COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60608

INVESTIGATIONS BUREAU

Date May 4, 1993		File #93IB-03-00376
Subject	Type of Case	Report #
Ralph S. Strand	Criminal Sexual Assault	
Synopsis of Report	Period Covered	Investigator(s)
Interview of Father		W. True
Paul Rosemeyer	5-4-93	G. McNamara

On 4 May 1993 RIs interviewed Father Paul Rosemeyer, Pastor at St. Marys Parish 749 Pearson Street Des Plaines, Illinois. Rosemeyer was informed the basic nature of this investigation and related the following in basic summary non verbatim.

Rosemeyer has been assigned to St. Marys Parish since 1981. Rosemeyer was questioned concerning a memorandum dated 25 June 1991 from the Vicar for Priests for the Archdiocese of Chicago to file reference Father Ralph Strand. The memorandum summarizes a conversation the Vicar had with Rosemeyer on that date in which the Vicar reports that Rosemeyer had no reason for thinking Strand had continued to act out a homosexual lifestyle. Rosemeyer stated that although he could not recall making the aforementioned statement he recalls Father Strand telling Rosemeyer of an incident shortly after Strand was assigned as Associate pastor at St. Marys in 1986. According to Rosemeyer, Strand advised Rosemeyer that an unidentified individual had alleged that he had been involved in a homosexual relationship with Strand. Rosemeyer stated that Strand did not identify the person making the allegation nor did Strand further elaborate. Rosemeyer believes the matter was never substantiated.

Rosemeyer additionally stated that he knew the identity of the person making the most recent allegation to be one [REDACTED] whose family are parishioners of [REDACTED]. During the period 1990-1991 Rosemeyer recalls observing [REDACTED] on several occasions on the second floor of the parish rectory, in the hallway outside of Strands living quarters. Rosemeyer was unable to recall if [REDACTED] entered Strand's room and could not recall the times of day or evening Rosemeyer made these observations. Rosemeyer had no knowledge of [REDACTED] ever spending the night in the rectory and maintained his living quarters in a separate adjacent facility known as the Father Bird House.

Rosemeyer was unable to provide any further information at this time and the interview was concluded.

Investigator(s)	<i>W. True</i>	Date	5-10-93
Approved	<i>J. Kulberg</i>	Supervisor	Date
			5-10-93



Off: (312) 642-1837
Fax: (312) 642-4933

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO
VICAR FOR PRIESTS
645 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, SUITE 543
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

MEMORANDUM

To: Francis Cardinal George, OMI
From: Rev. Jim Kaczorowski
Date: July 12, 2001
Re: Rev. Ralph Strand

You may be aware that the Mundelein Department of Police visited Ralph Strand some months ago informing him that he is residing less than 500 feet from Mt. Carmel School. (A sex offender needs to live more than 500 feet from the location of any children's facilities.) The property line was determined by the state's attorney who defined it as being the entry to Mundelein Seminary on Route 176 which is less than 500 feet from the entry of the school. We discussed the possibility of partitioning the land surrounding the retreat house as a separate entity which would be more than 500 feet from Mt. Carmel. However, Larry McBrady discovered that the Mt. Carmel ball field is directly across from the retreat house. This is also less than 500 feet.

Unless the interpretation of the law is changed, the future for Ralph residing at the retreat house looks very grim. We will need to find a different location for priests who are convicted sex offenders.

Ralph is very anxious and nervous about this situation. We will make efforts to retain the retreat house for a residence of priest sex offenders, but the future doesn't look promising.

[REDACTED]

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

COPY

Office of Professional Fitness Review
676 N. St. Clair, Suite 1910
Chicago, IL 60611



(312)751-5205
1-800-994-6200
Fax (312)751-5279

Memorandum

To: File PFR-41

From: Kathleen Leggdas, Administrator *KL*

Re: Rev. Ralph Strand

Date: January 10, 2001

On December 12, 2000 Rev. James Kaczorowski, Vicar for Priests, received a telephone call from Rev. David Jones, President of Quigley Seminary. Father Jones wanted to discuss a conversation that he had had with Father Snieg, one of the chaperones to the seminarians who accompanied Cardinal George on the Pilgrimage to Mexico the previous week.

Father Snieg reported that one of the seminarians had come to him to talk about a priest who was also on the pilgrimage with the group – Father Ralph Strand. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Based on this information a meeting was held with Father Strand, Father Kaczorowski and the Professional Fitness Review Administrator.

The student's name is [REDACTED]. Father Strand was not surprised that concerns had been raised. On the other hand, his expectation was that there may have been talk about his "hanging around" with three women on the tour. They were coincidentally from St. Francis Borgia parish where Father had been previously assigned. The only information [REDACTED] had was Father's first name and the fact that he lived at Mundelein Seminary. ✓

Father Strand explained that upon one occasion he met the seminarian in the gift shop attached to the hotel. [REDACTED] was looking for souvenirs for his family. RS began a conversation with him about who he was buying things for etc. In the course of that conversation, RS asked the seminarian his age. RS clarified that he did this since would have been more comfortable talking with him had he been 18 or older. At that time RS gave [REDACTED] \$20.00 as he observed that he did not have enough money for the purchases he wanted to make.

AOC 005501

On a second occasion RS was observed sitting in the hotel lobby talking to [REDACTED] by Mary McDonough from the Office of Communications. As she is familiar with Father Strand's case as a result of the publicity from the past, she stated to PFRA in a meeting following the return of the tour group that she was uncomfortable that they were alone. They were sitting across from each other and there were no visible improprieties. Mary McDonough spoke to James Vodak, Director of Communications and the two decided to tell the chaperones from Quigley of Father Strand's status as a client of the Office of Professional Fitness Review.

[REDACTED] had spoken of his discomfort to Father Sneig who was grateful for the information regarding Father Strand. Father Strand reported that he felt he was "being watched" by the two seminary chaperones. Based on the information provided by MMC this would likely be true.

Father strand stated that he was never alone with the student and that both interactions took place in the public areas of the hotel in which they were staying. At the end of the trip RS had another occasion to talk to [REDACTED] and asked him if he had bought himself a souvenir of his trip. [REDACTED]'s response was in the negative. RS then took out a medallion he had purchased from the shrine of Guadalupe and gave it to the young man. RS stated that [REDACTED] said that "they should get together for lunch some time." To which, RS stated that he made no response.

In retrospect and based on the observations of Jim Vodak and Mary McDonough the question was raised concerning the advisability of allowing Father Strand to accompany the Cardinal on the Pilgrimage. Mary Ann Ahern and other press representatives were there and could have recognized him to the detriment of RS and the Archdiocese of Chicago.

PFRA categorized RS's behavior as "grooming" behavior but father disagreed and was either unwilling or unable to relate to this interpretation. He was annoyed and angry at his not being able to publicly interact with the young man and interpreted his actions as those of a generous man, not a predator.

Cc: Review Board Members
Rev. Thomas J. Paprocki, Cardinal's Delegate to the Review Board
Rev. James Kaczorowski, Vicar for Priests

Victim Statement Abstract

This abstract replaces the summary prepared by Steve Sidlowski, Professional Fitness Administrator for the Archdiocese of Chicago, of Victim AI's and Victim AJ's statements, given to Mr. Sidlowski on March 30, 1993, formalizing their allegations of sexual abuse against Fr. Ralph Strand. According to the statements, Fr. Strand sexually abused Victim AI and Victim AJ in approximately 1973 when Victim AI and Victim AJ were in the seventh and eighth grade at St. Simeon's School. Fr. Skriba made sexual comments and fondled the boys' genitals and buttocks on numerous occasions. The victims reported that Fr. Skriba sexually molested at least 12 male classmates in a similar manner.

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Office of Professional Responsibility



P.O. Box 1979
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979

(312) 751-5205
Fax: (312) 751-5279
www.archchicago.org

MEMORANDUM

To: File – PFR-41
From: Review Board Meeting
Re: Strand, Ralph (Withdrawn) [REDACTED]
Date: April 16, 2005

A summary of the conversation from the Professional Responsibility Review Board Meeting on April 16, 2005:

The Review Board conducted a Review for Cause regarding the allegation made by [REDACTED]. The claim is as follows: fondling and groping; more than 50 incidents and less than 100.

In a 6-0 vote in light of the information presented, the Board determined that there is reasonable cause to suspect that the alleged misconduct occurred. Further, the Board recommends that Fr. Strand's withdrawal from ministry continues as well as the current restrictions and monitoring imposed in accord with Archdiocesan policies and procedures.

AOC 005504

Victim Statement Abstract

This abstract replaces the summary prepared by G. McNamara, Investigator for the Office of the Cook County State's Attorney, of Victim AI's statement, given to Mr. McNamara on March 30, 1993, reporting his allegation of sexual abuse against Fr. Ralph Strand. According to Victim AI, he came in contact with Fr. Strand in approximately 1971 when he was in 6th grade. Victim AI reported that Fr. Strand provided students with beer and wine on occasion, grabbed their buttocks and put his hand on their lap while wiggling his tongue.

Victim Statement Abstract

This abstract replaces the summary prepared by G. McNamara, Investigator for the Office of the Cook County State's Attorney, of Victim AJ's statement, given to Mr. McNamara on April 2, 1993, reporting his allegation of sexual abuse against Fr. Ralph Strand. According to Victim AJ's statement, Victim AJ came to know Fr. Strand in seventh grade in approximately 1971 and Fr. Strand always made sexually suggestive remarks around students at St. Simeon's. Victim AJ reported abuse consisting of Fr. Strand grabbing Victim AJ's genitals over the clothing, putting his hand in Victim AJ's pocket while sticking out his tongue, and propositioning Victim AJ for oral sex. Fr. Strand's behavior got worse by eighth grade and some students reported it to a nun working at the school in 1973. According to Victim AJ, Fr. Strand was also a Boy Scout chaplain.

Victim Statement Abstract

This abstract replaces a summary prepared by Kathleen Leggdas, Professional Fitness Review Administrator for the Archdiocese of Chicago's Office of Professional Fitness Review, of Victim AK's statement, given to Ms. Leggdas on August 24, 1999, formalizing his allegation of sexual abuse against Fr. Ralph Strand. According to Victim AK's statement, the abuse consisted of discussion of sexual topics and genital fondling when Victim AK was in the sixth through eighth grades at St. Simeon School. Victim AK also reported that he may have been abused by Fr. Strand at an earlier age, but had difficulty remembering the details of the abuse.

M I N U T E S

Meeting: #71 - Thirteenth Board

Date: April 2, 1993

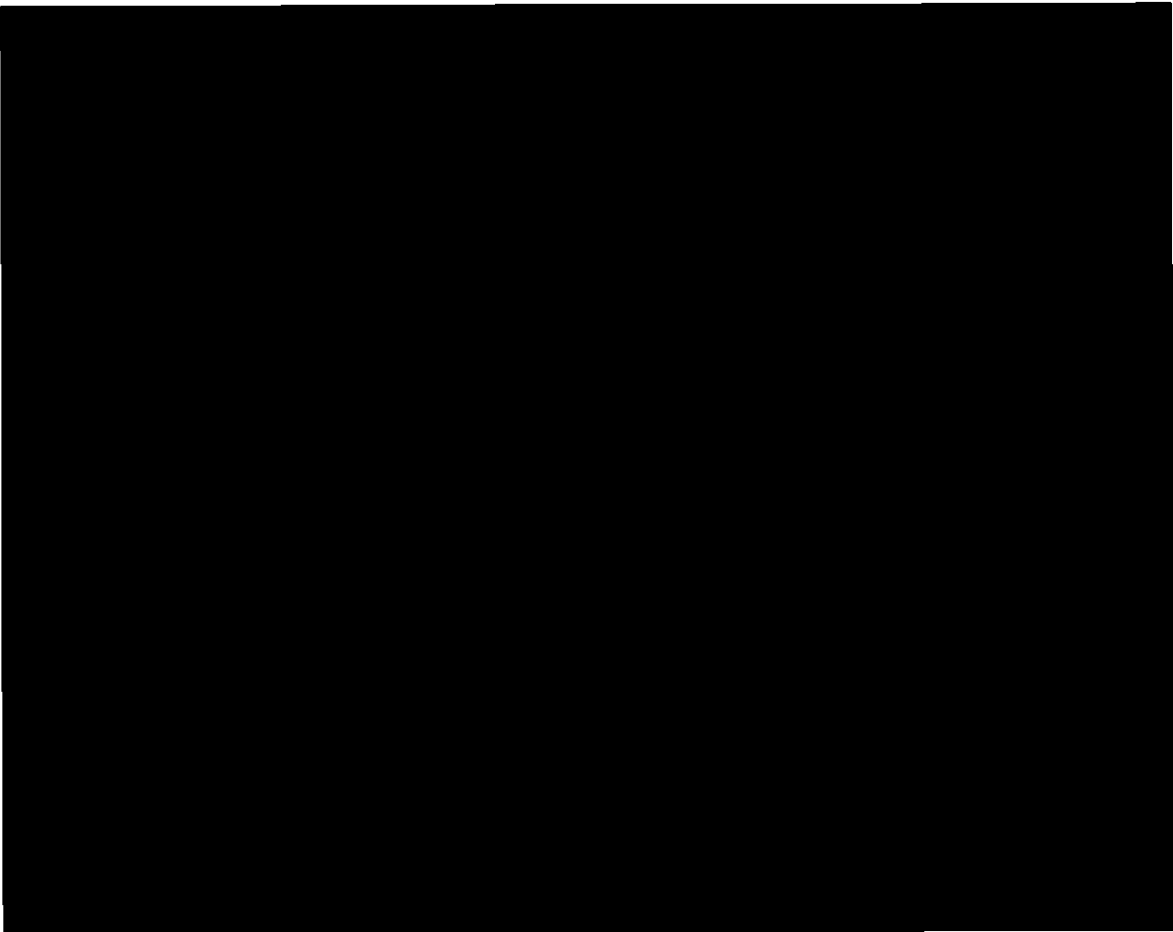
Place: Priests' Personnel Board

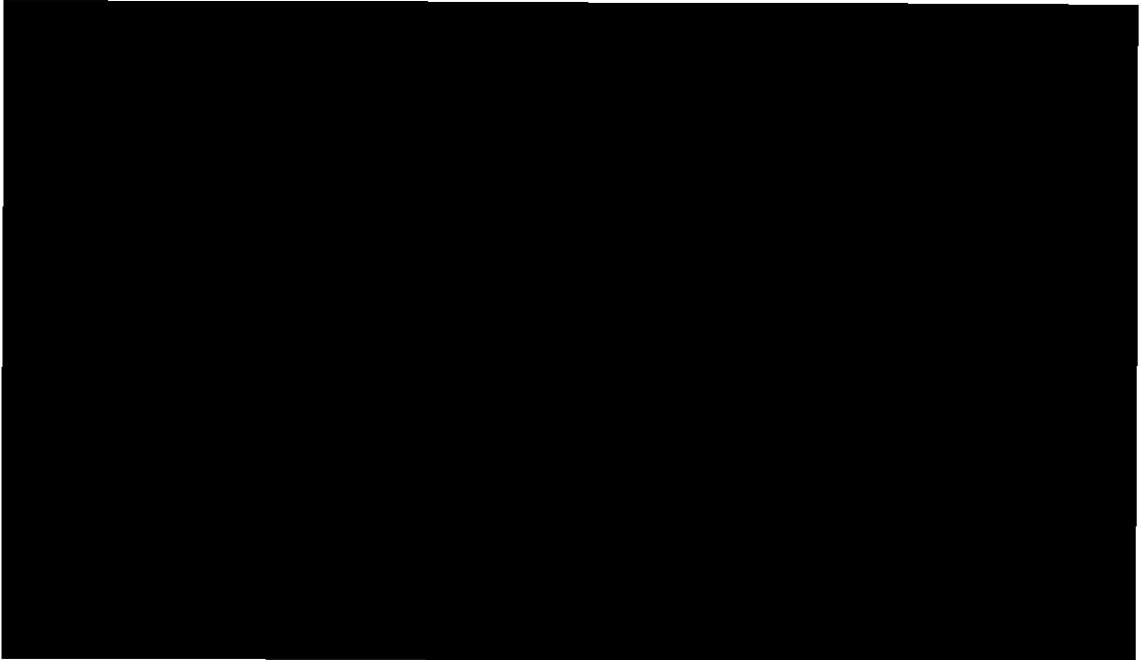
Present: Reverends: Jeremiah M. Boland, Daniel P. Coughlin,
Edward R. Fialkowski, Robert P. Heinz,
Donald J. Nevins, Michael W. O'Connell,
Victor J. Sivoire (arriv. 10:20),
Kenneth J. Velo (arriv. 10:25),
Michael T. Ivers (arriv. 11:40).

I. Opening Prayer: Rev. Robert P. Heinz 10:10 A.M.

II. Minutes: Accepted 4 - 0 - 3

III. 





IV. Acceptance of Agenda: Approved 9 - 0 - 0

V. Business:

A. Vicar for Priests

1.

2.

3.



4.

5.

6.

7.

8. Ralph Strand '64: Ralph has been placed on Administrative Leave. He will probably not be returning to the pastorate of St. Francis Borgia. The Vicar for Priests will be meeting with the Cardinal to assess the issue of the pastorate at St. Francis Borgia, given the difficulties the community has experienced over the last several years. It might be in the best interest of all to consider a direct appointment of a new pastor in the not too distant future.

9.

10.

B.

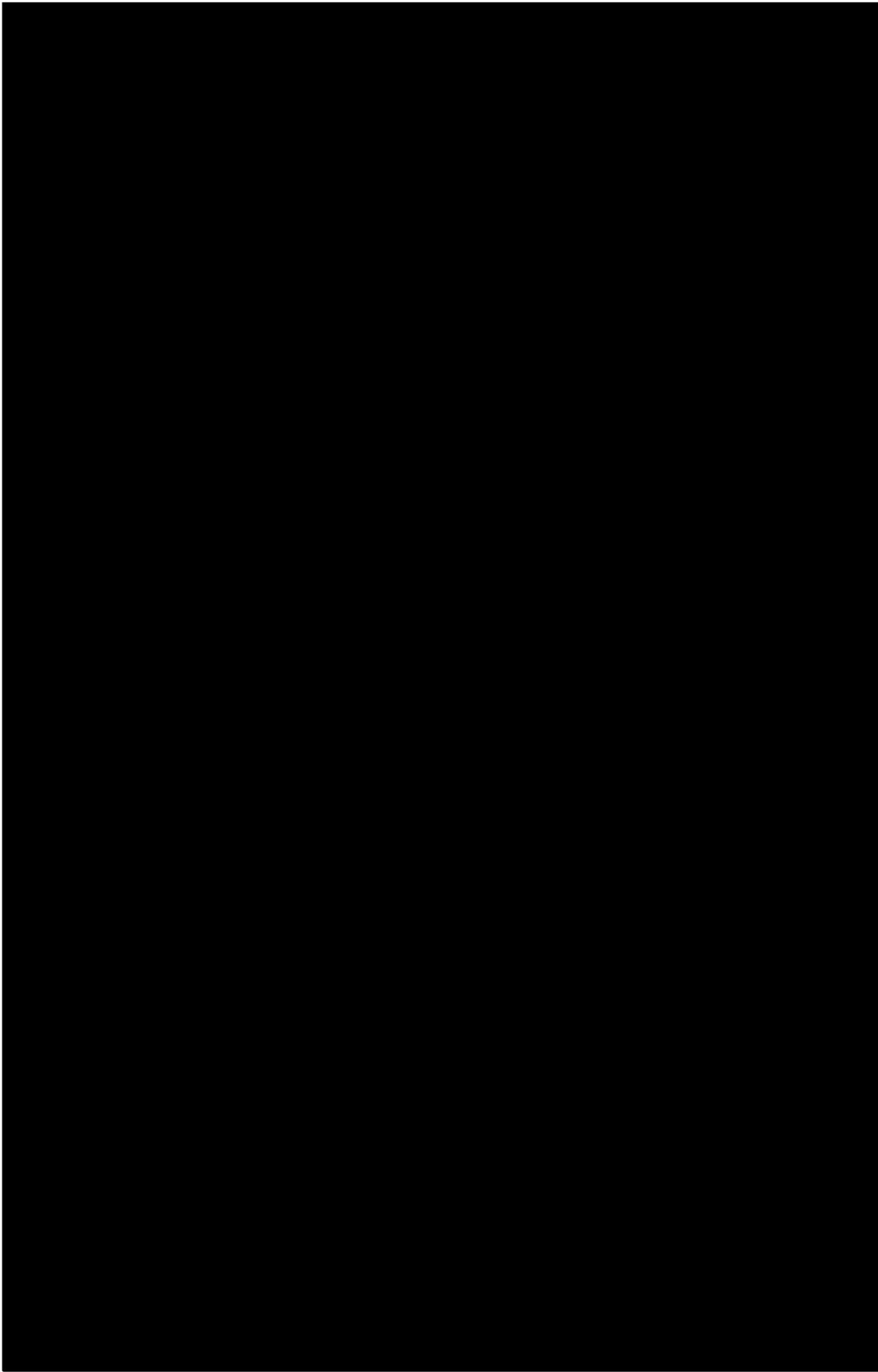
C.

D.

E.

F.

G.



H.

I.

J.

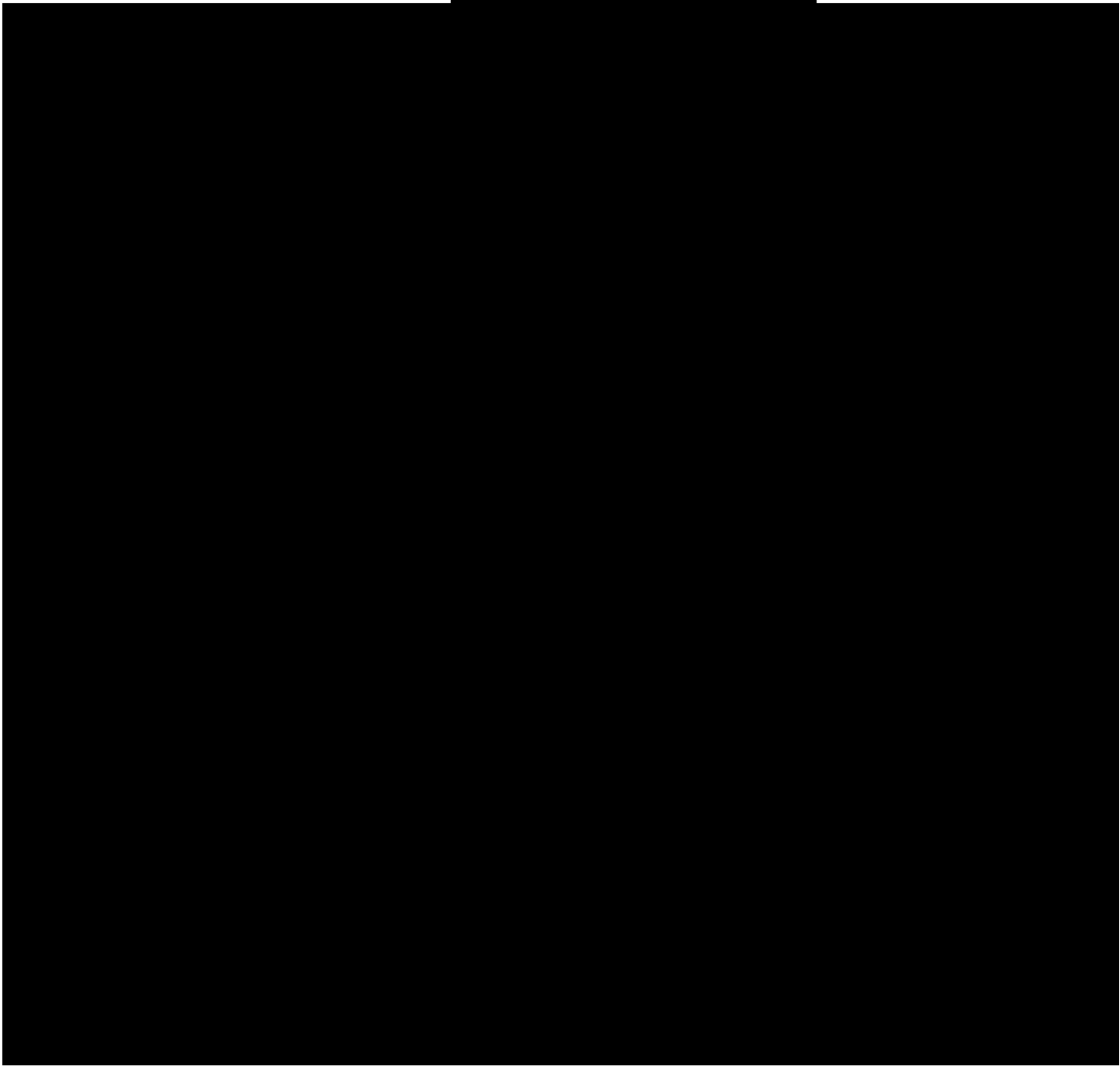


VI. Old Business: None discussed.

VII. New Business: None discussed.

VIII. Adjournment: 2:20 P.M.
MOTION: 9 - 0 - 0





A G E N D A

Meeting: #76 - Thirteenth Board
Date: May 14, 1993
Place: Priests' Personnel Board

I. Opening Prayer: Rev. Kenneth J. Velo

II. Acceptance of Minutes:

III. Reports: (See Attached Sheet)

IV. Acceptance of Agenda:

V. Business:

A.

B.

C.

D.

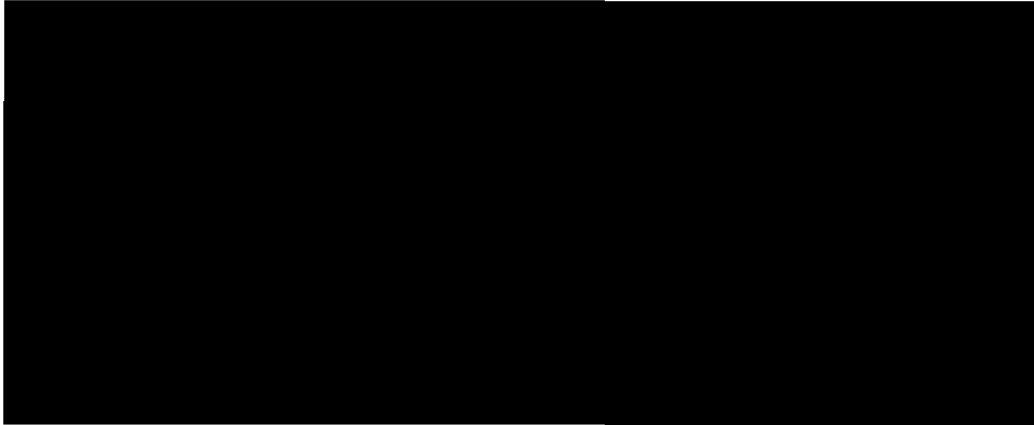
E.

F.

G.



H.



I.

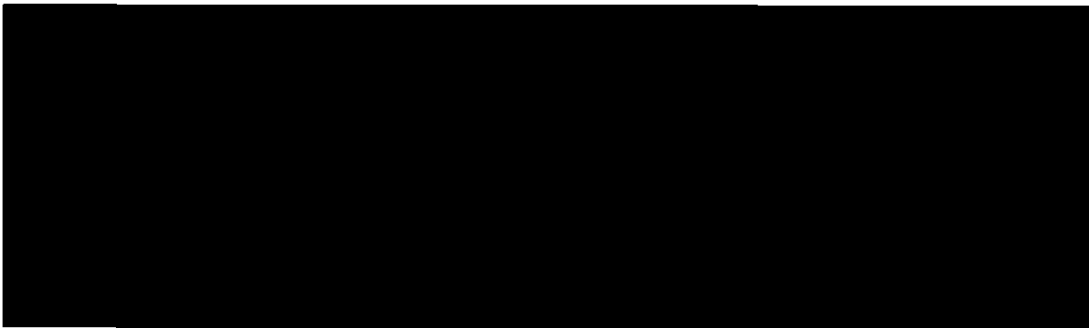
J.

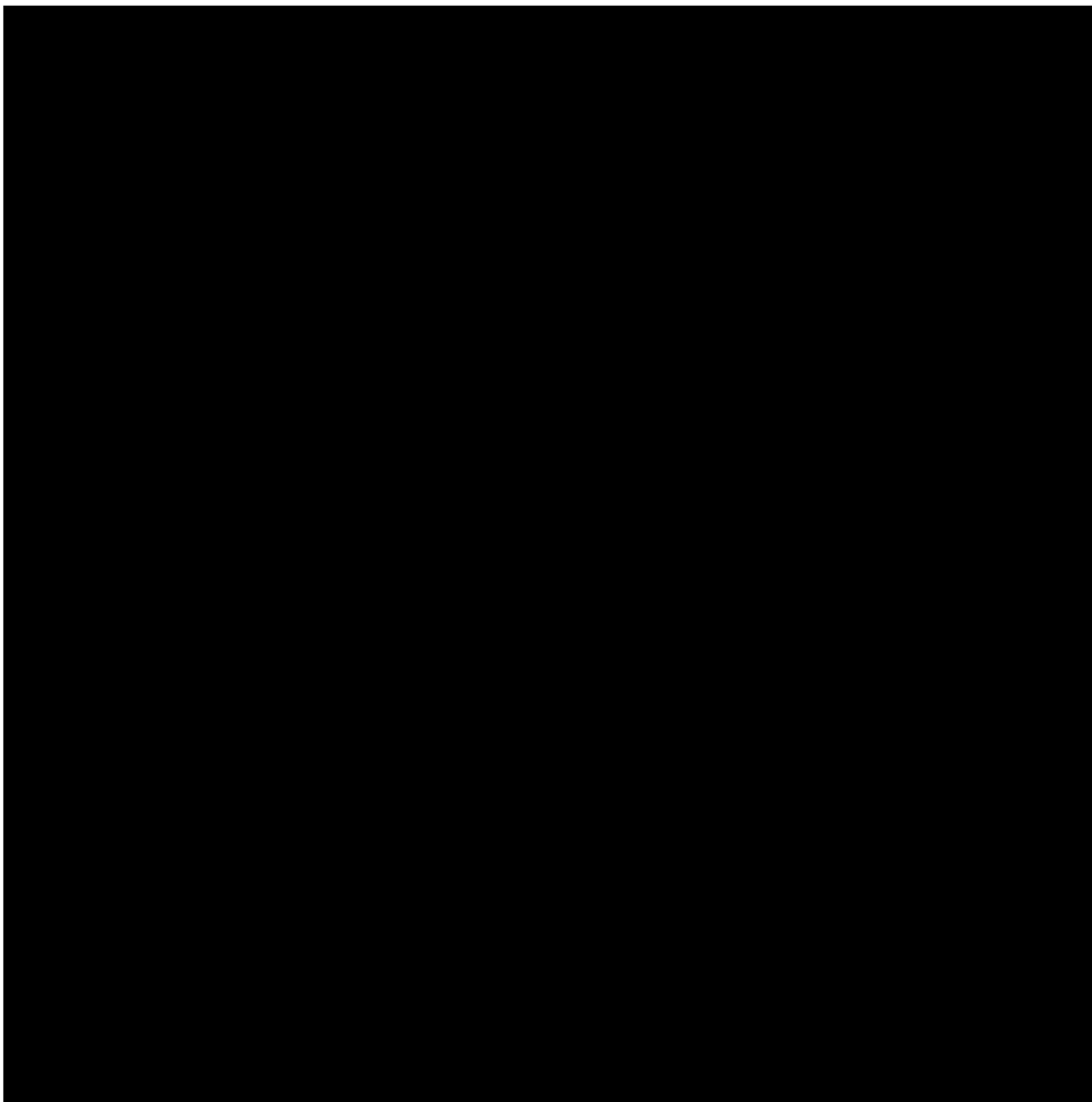
K.

VI. Old Business:

VII. New Business:

VIII. Adjournment:
MOTION:





REPORTS: (05/11/93)

1. Cardinal's Appointments:

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f) Ralph Strand '64: The Cardinal accepts Ralph's resignation from the pastorate of St. Francis Borgia Parish, effective immediately.

g)

h)

i)

j)

k)

l)

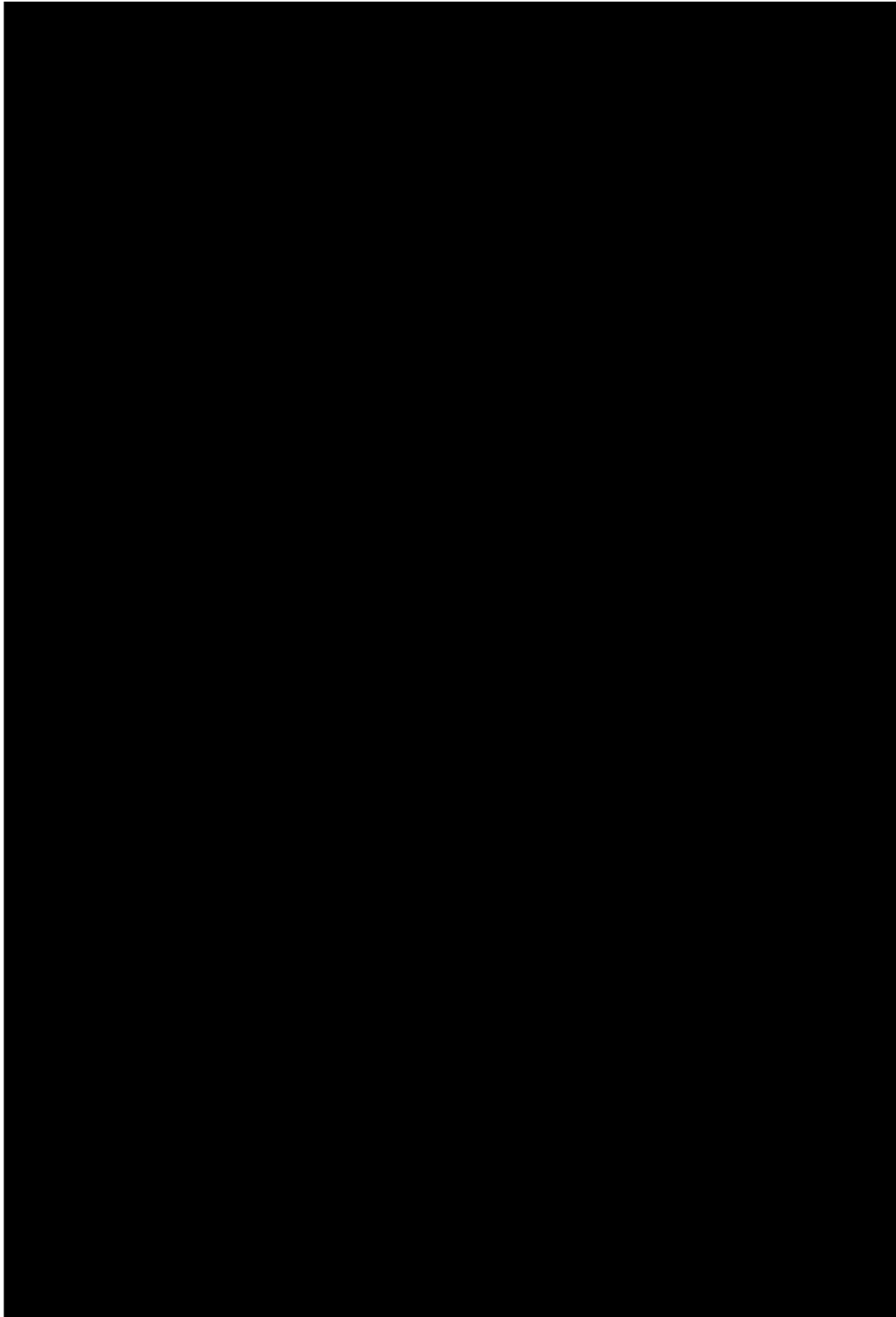
m)

n)

2.



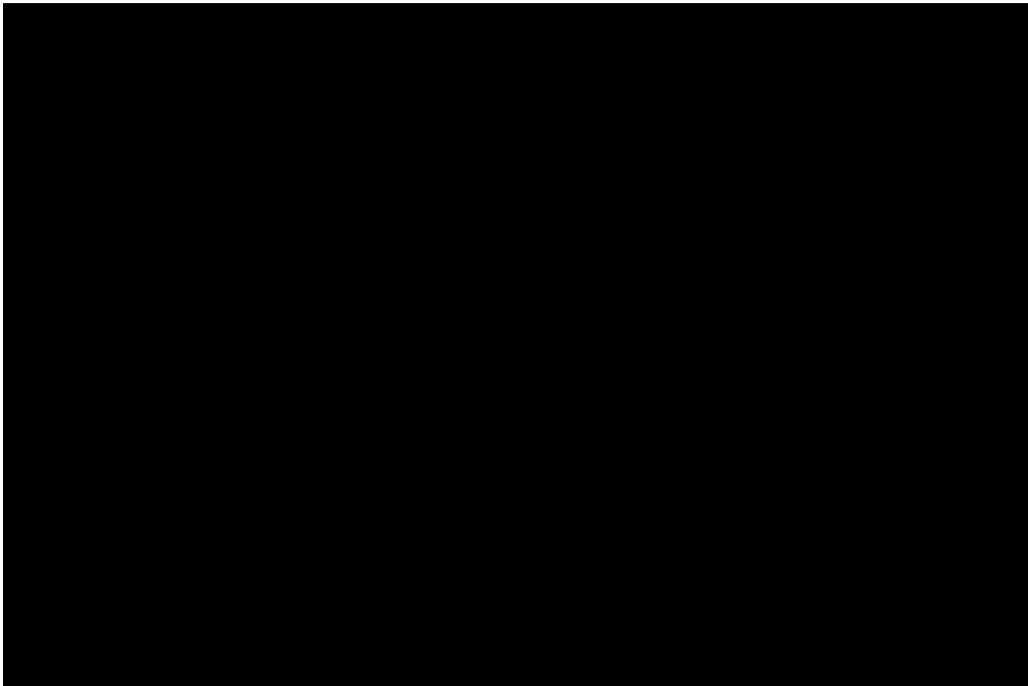
3.



4.

5.

6.



MINUTES

Meeting: #38th - Eighteenth Board

Date: June 28, 2002

Place: Priests' Placement Board

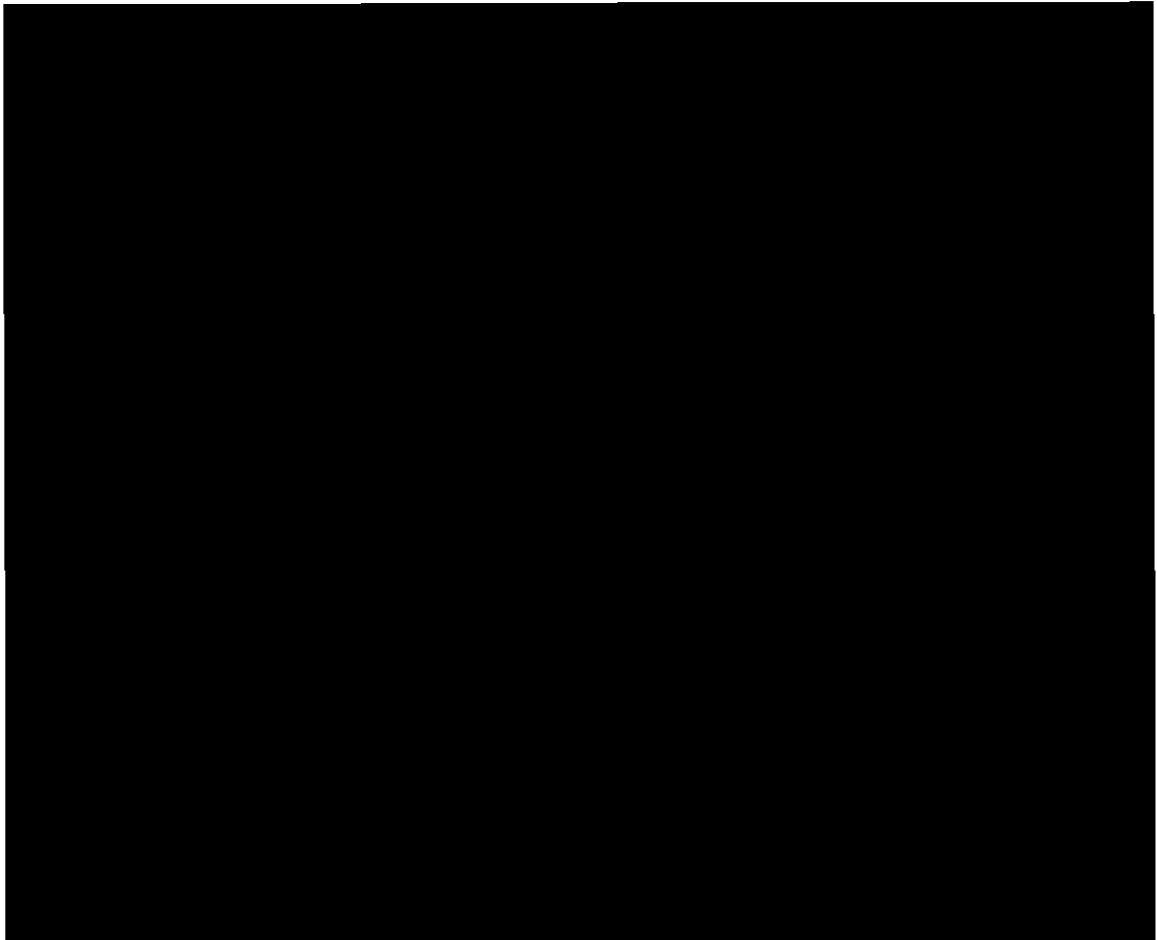
Present: Rev.: Kurt D. Boras (arriv. 11:40), John W. Clemens,
Joseph P. Grembla, Robert G. Mair, Daniel P. McCarthy (left 12:00),
Martin E. O'Donovan (left 1:40), Michael J. Shanahan (arriv. 10:40)

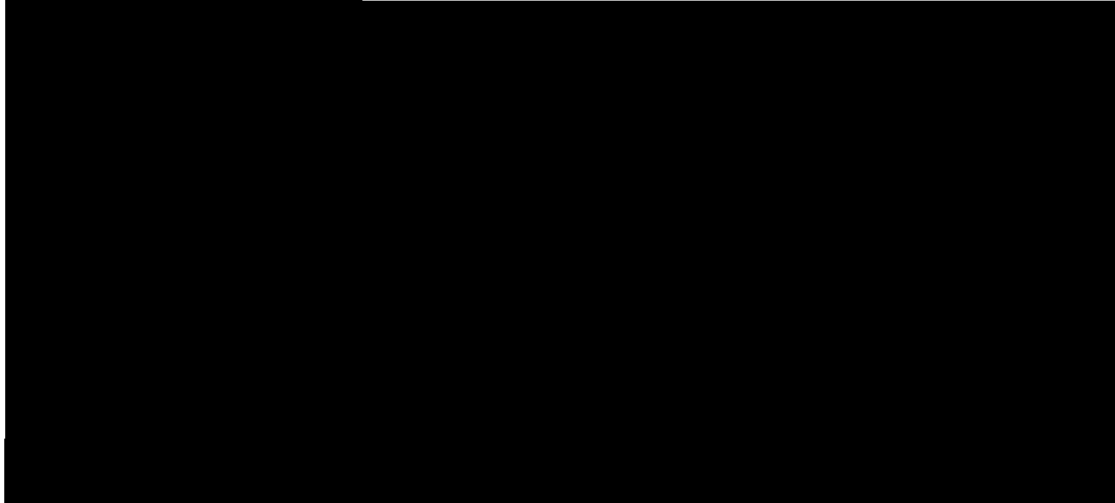
Absent: Rev. David A. Jones

I Opening Prayer: Rev. Joseph P. Grembla **10:20 am**

II Acceptance of Minutes: 5 – 0 – 0

III Reports:



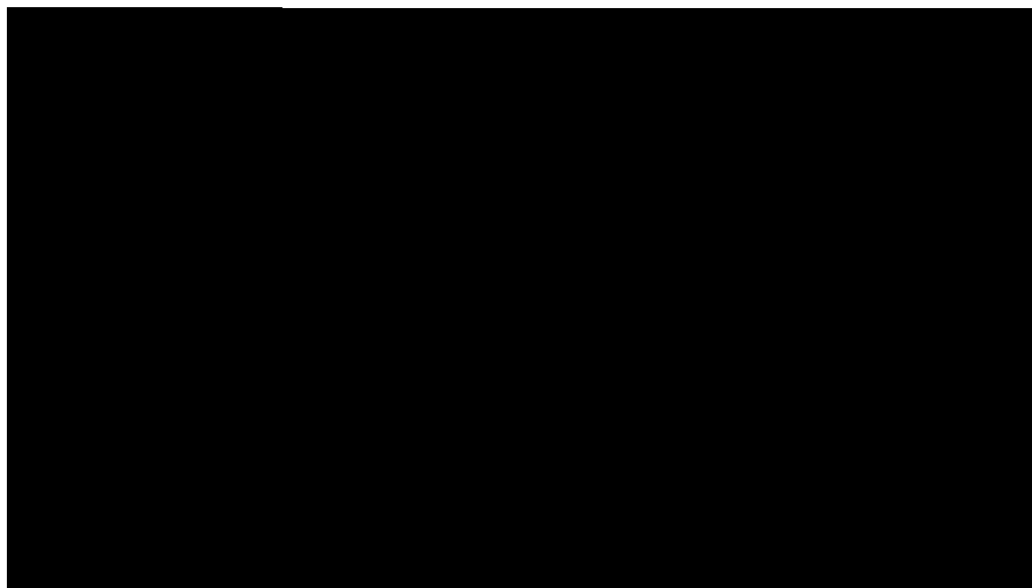


IV Acceptance of Agenda: 5 – 0 – 0

V Business:

A. Appointments:

1.



[REDACTED]

2. Lawrence McBrady & James Kaczorowski [Vicars for Priests]: met with the Board regarding problem priests. Last meeting for Larry.

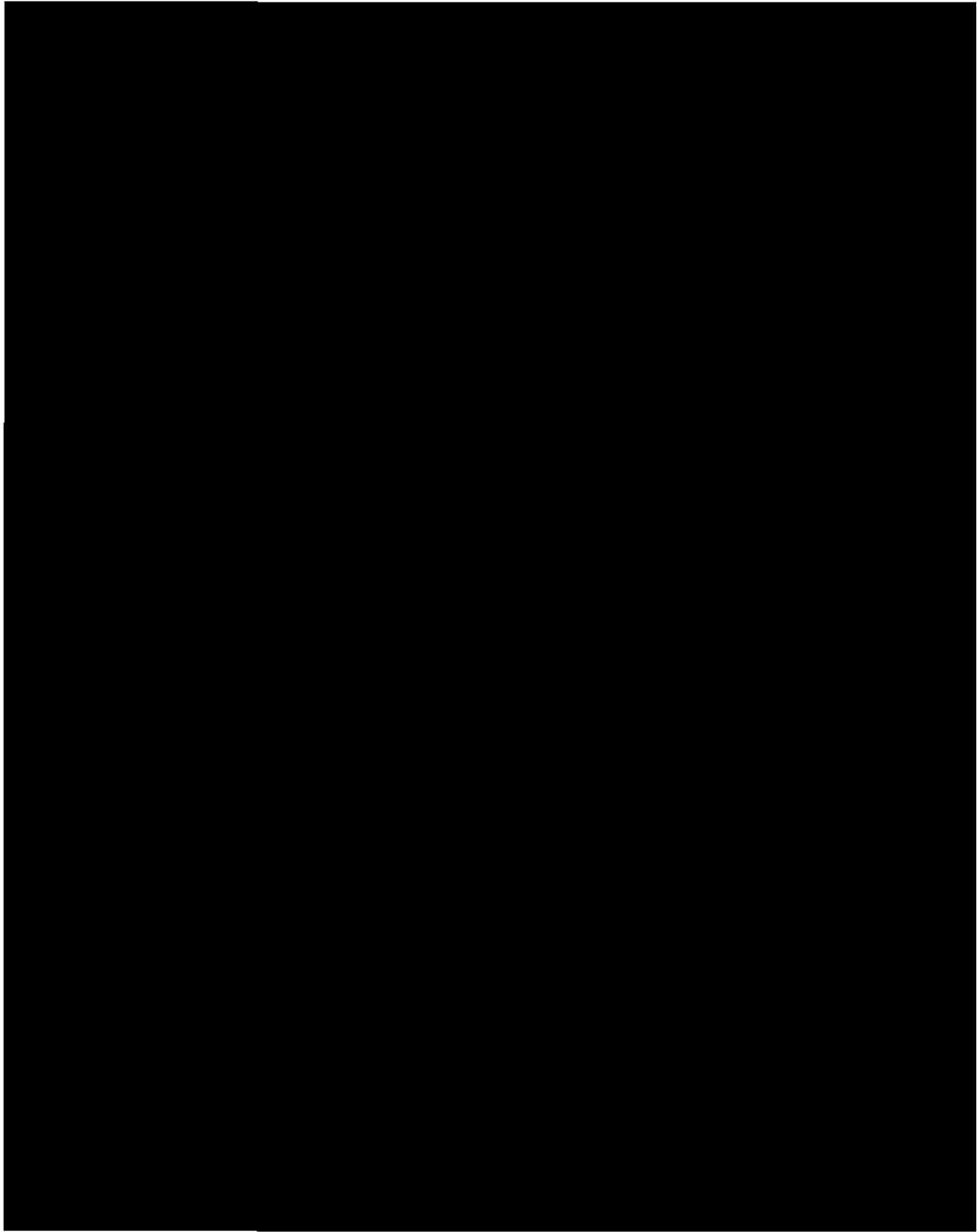
- 3.

[REDACTED]

- 4.

B.

[REDACTED]



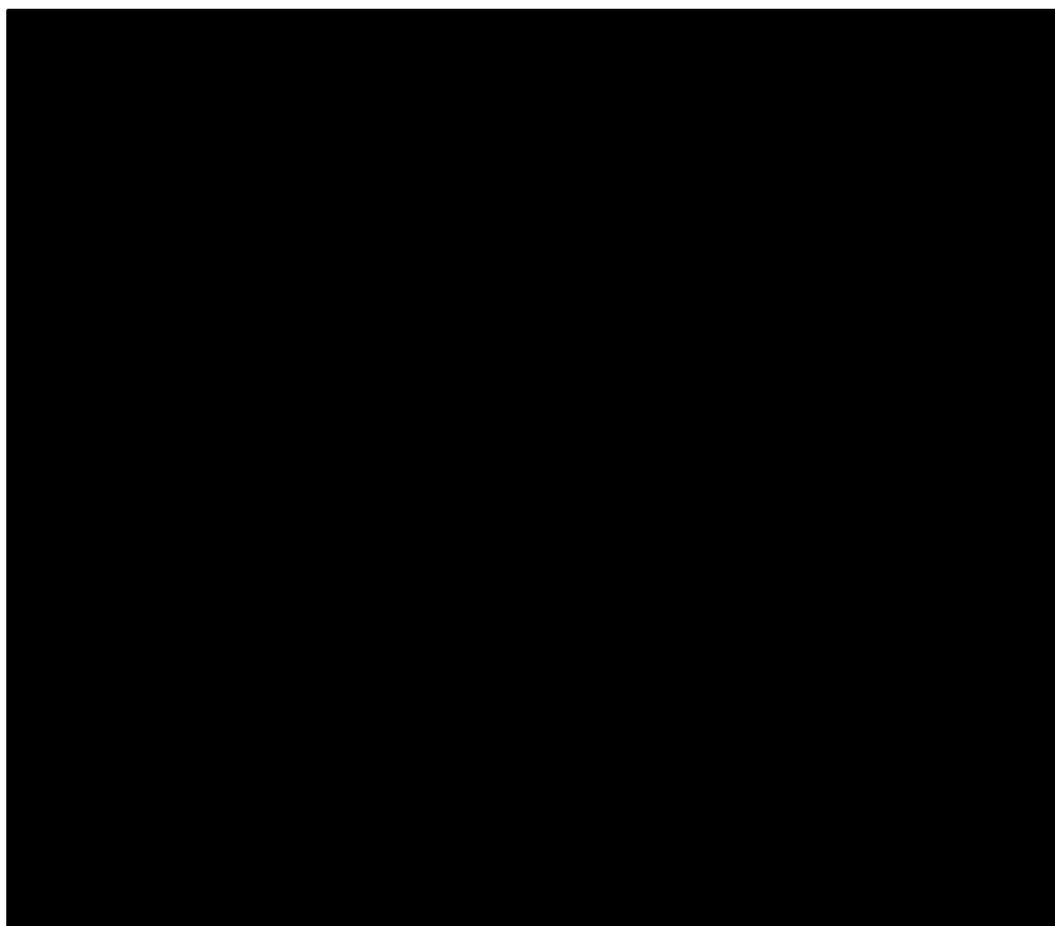
C.



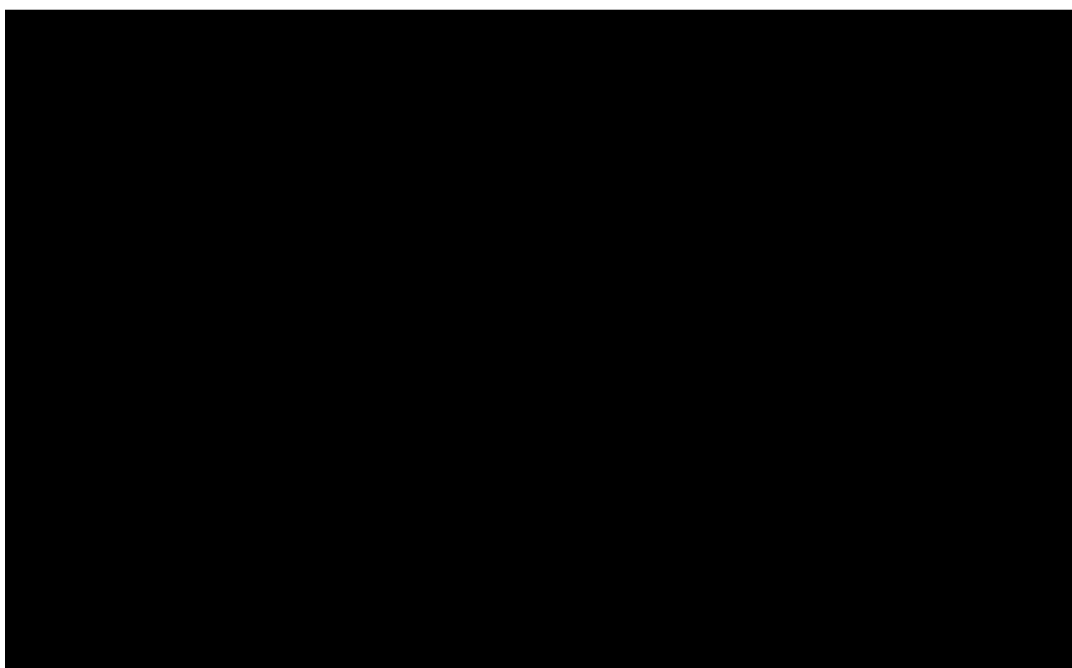
D.

[REDACTED]

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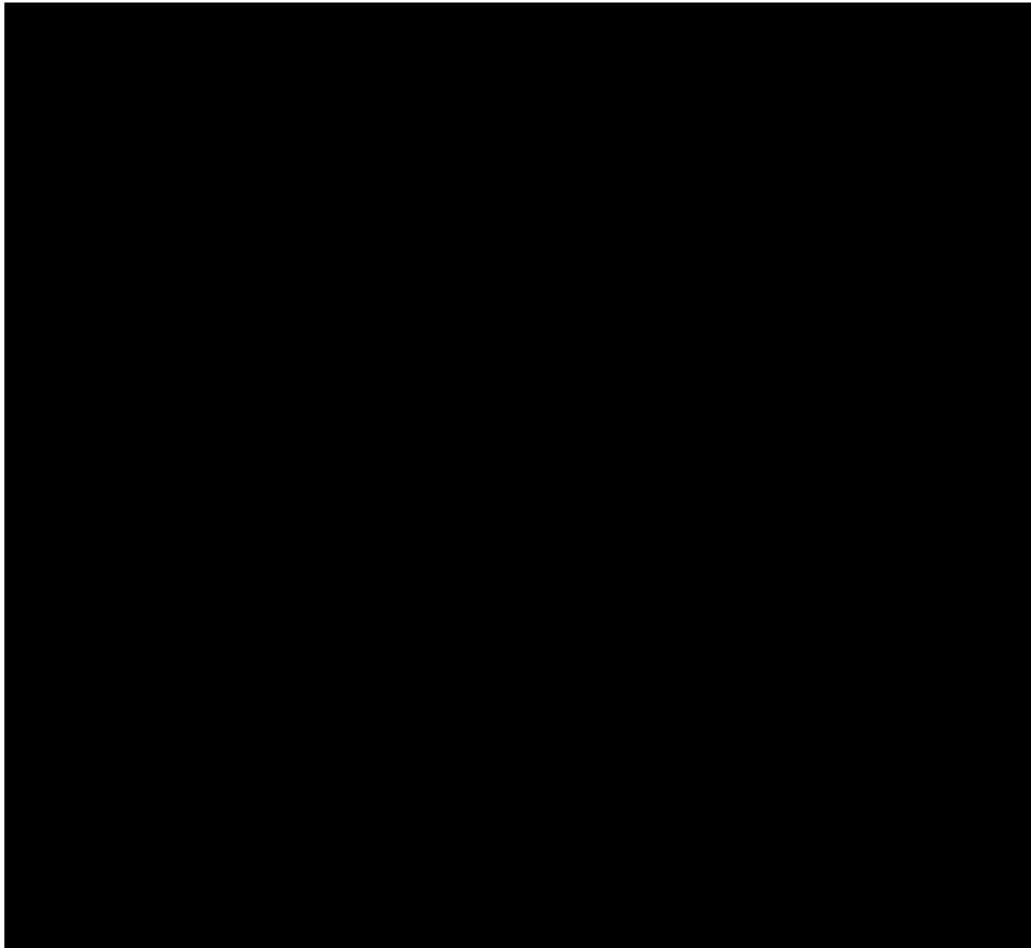


E.





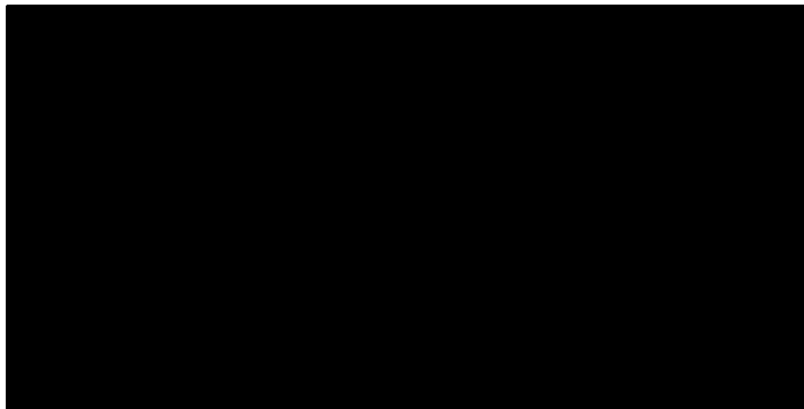
F.



G. Vicar for Priests Agenda:

I Priests:

- a)
- b)
- c)
- d)
- e)
- f)



g)

h)

i)

j)

k) Ralph Strand '64: Ralph is in the monitoring program.

l)

m)

n)

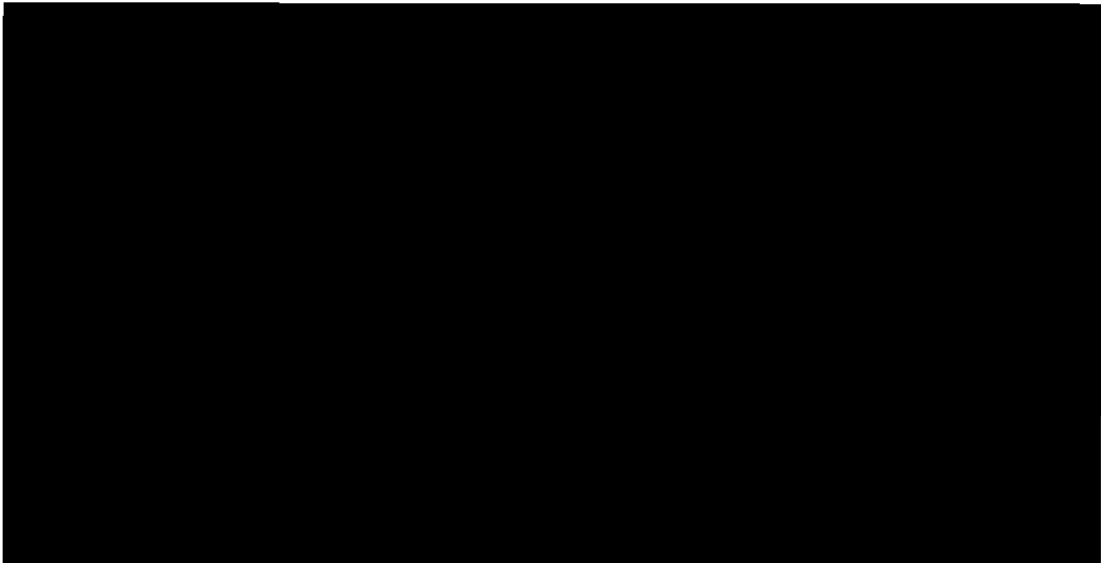
H.

I.

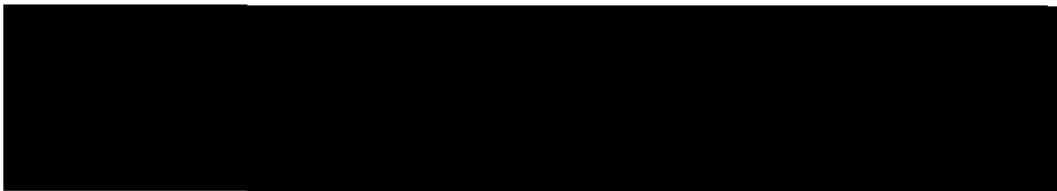
J.

K.

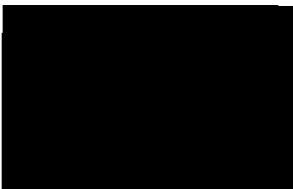
L.



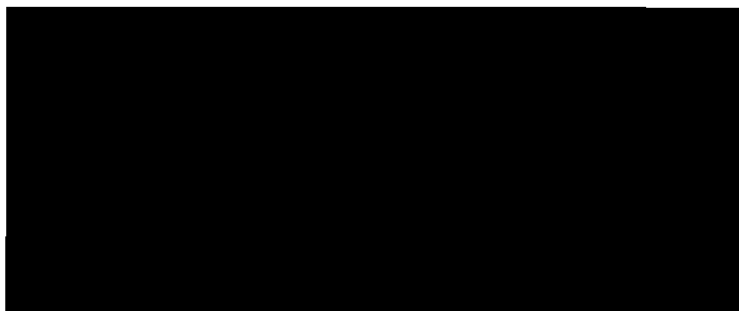
M.



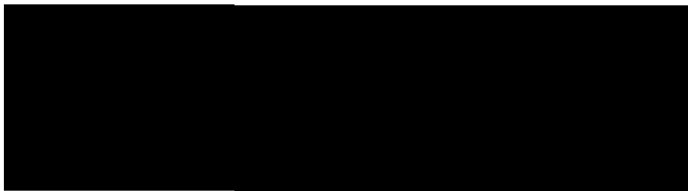
N.



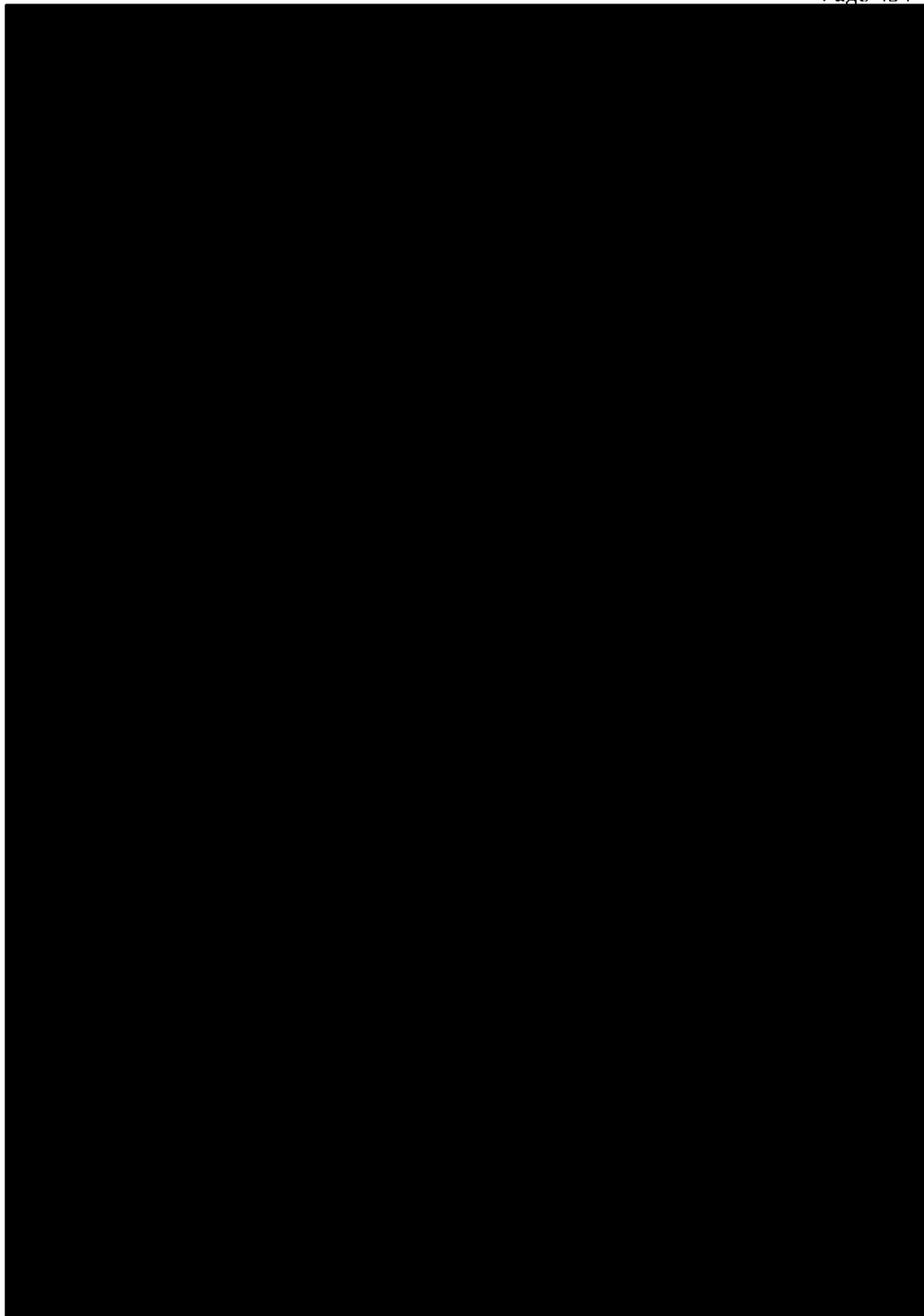
O.



P.



Q. Pool of Pastor Candidates: 253 / 16 guys VP / 237 total These lists were given to the Cardinal and Vicars.



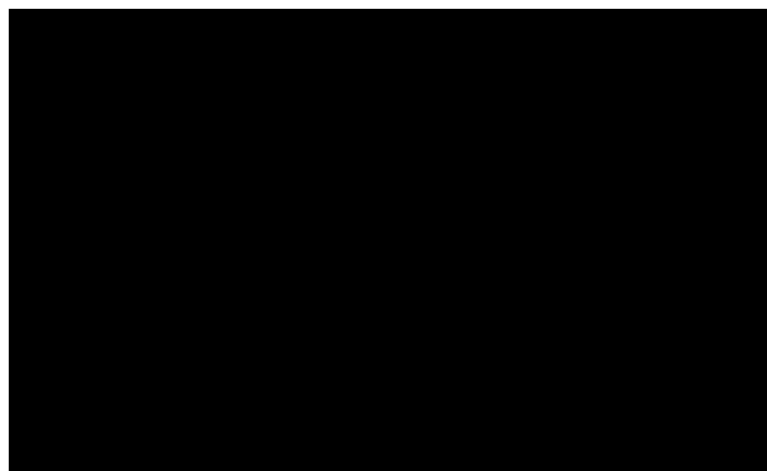
PRIESTS IN NON PAROCHIAL WORK WITHIN THE ARCHDIOCESE

[illegible]

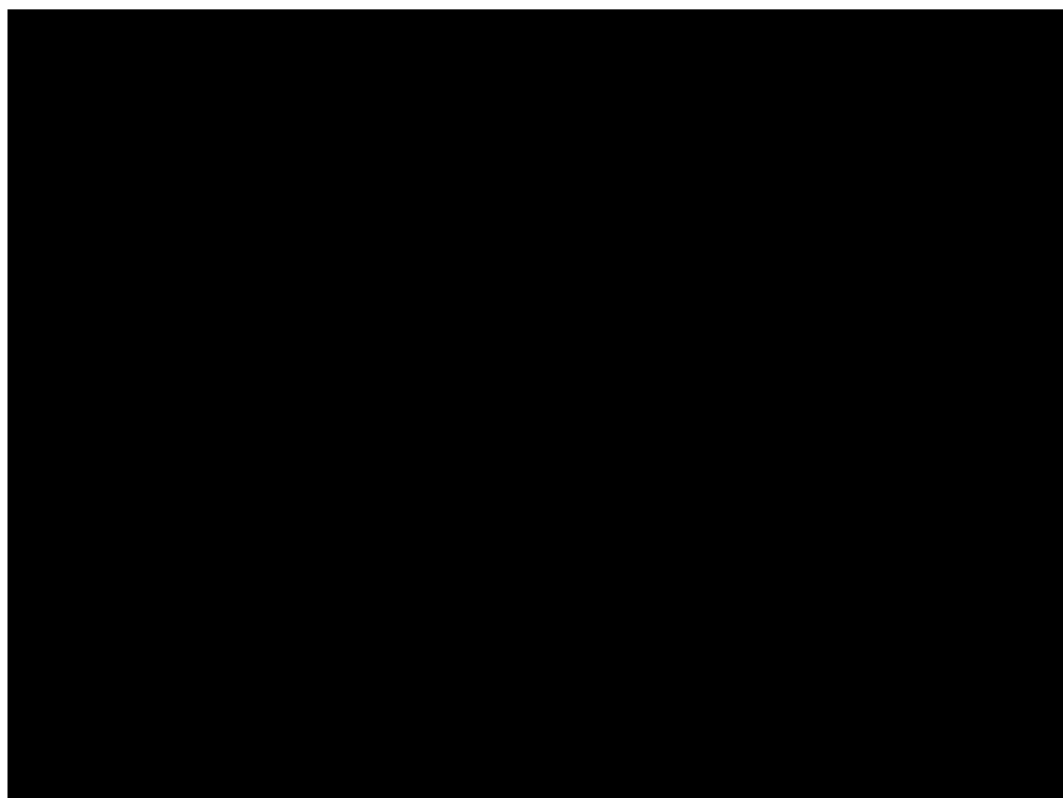
VI Old Business:

VII New Business:

VIII Adjournment: 1:37 pm
 MOTION: 5 - 0 - 0



e



1



2

3