

OFFICE OF SEXUAL ABUSE PREVENTION AND RESPONSE SERVICES  
ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE  
SEXUAL ABUSE INTAKE REPORT

Date Report Taken: June 10, 2008

Time: 11:30 am Phone   In Person

Received By: Amy Peterson

REDACTED

Person Reporting: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

Allegations made by:  
(if not same as above)

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Date of Birth: [REDACTED]

Age at time of

Allegations: Ten through Seventeen

Allegations Against: Lawrence Murphy

Time Period: 1950 - 1957

Where: St. John's School for the Deaf in Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Reported: (Previously? To Whom?) Fr. Walsh, a priest from the Archdiocese of Chicago

**Alleged Abuse:**

[REDACTED] reported that he was sent to St. John's school when he was nine years old in 1949. He stated that one year later Lawrence Murphy came to the school. He said that his first year was fine, and that when Murphy arrived, he was very nice at first. Some-time during [REDACTED] first year, he stated that Murphy called to him while he was walking through the hall and instructed him to come to his room in the evening. [REDACTED] stated that he slept in the dorm room upstairs and that Murphy's office was downstairs. He went down stairs to the office. When he got there Murphy told him to go into the bedroom. Murphy went to lay on the bed while lying on the bed he instructed [REDACTED] to take off his pants and underwear. [REDACTED] said he was told to leave his shirt on. [REDACTED] stated that Murphy touched his private parts. As he stood in front of Murphy with his genitals exposed, Murphy was telling him what his testicles, penis and some gland were. While he was touching [REDACTED] he took tissues and put them in front of [REDACTED] penis and told him to come. Then he showed [REDACTED] the tissue and said this is what a seed is. Murphy told [REDACTED] he was done. [REDACTED] pulled up his pants and asked Murphy is he could go to Communion the next day. Murphy said it was OK.

[REDACTED] stated that one or two days later this happened again and then continued on and off until he graduated.. [REDACTED] reported another thing Murphy would do is while [REDACTED] was sitting in a chair in Murphy's office next to Murphy at the table, was put his hand in [REDACTED] pant's pocket and rub his penis.

[REDACTED] said that he believed he was the only one this was happening to and that he thought Murphy chose him specifically. He stated Murphy was kind to him but that the incidents when Murphy would molest him made him feel terrible about himself. He believed that Fr. Gehl and the nuns didn't know what was happening to him. [REDACTED] did not remember the number of incidents but stated that they occurred off and on throughout his entire school experience at St. John's. [REDACTED] kept repeating during the interview that he wished he had told his parents. He also stated that his friends at the school never said anything.

**History:**

[REDACTED] was born one of three children and the only deaf child to hearing parents. He attended a Catholic School in Chicago until he received his First Communion. The school closed and his parents sent him to St. John's School for the Deaf. He said he would often take the train into Milwaukee from Chicago and then back again during breaks. His mother would sometimes pin an envelope to his shirt with the tuition payment inside. He stated that is difficult to think about the fact that his parents paid for his tuition all those years while he was being abused. [REDACTED] stated there were many things he liked about St. John's School. He loved playing sports. He stated that he was quiet and the nuns liked him. He said when he graduated and went on to another school, he missed St. John's except for Fr. Murphy. He told this reporter that he was very relieved when he went up to receive his diploma at graduation and he saw that Fr. Murphy's name wasn't on it. St Thomsilla (principal) had signed it as well as Sr. Georgine (teacher). When he graduated from St. John's, he went to a school in Ohio. He dropped out after two years when a priest at the school approached him and asked him to scratch his back. He felt very uncomfortable and stated that the priest wanted [REDACTED] to rub or massage his back and that he felt it was inappropriate. His parents allowed him to leave the school and [REDACTED] then began to work. He got married and has four children. He stated that his wife did not know about the abuse until about two years ago. [REDACTED] reports his wife is very angry and did not want him to report it or meet with this reporter. [REDACTED] and his wife attended therapy for a period of time to help them communicate better. [REDACTED] told this reporter that he's felt ashamed all of these years for what happened and

believed he was the only one. He stated that it has been difficult talking about it but wants to feel better. He has an appointment with a therapist to continue to talk about his abuse at St. John's.

**REDACTED**

**Next Steps:**

● would like a meeting with the Archbishop. He would also like to pursue mediation. He is in counseling and has a counselor that signs. His insurance currently covers his therapy costs. If that changes and he needs financial assistance, he will notify VAC. VAC will support ● and his family as needed.

Archbishop Timothy Dolan

Bishop Richard Sklba

Fr. Curt Frederick (Clergy)

Fr. Al Veik (Religious)

Rick Tank (Non-Cleric)

Barbara Anne Cusack

x Bishop William Callahan

District Attorney

Intake form  
SAZ/Revised 2/25/08

Additional Notes: These were added after the interview via email.

“The year after I graduated from eighth grade, then I went to high school in Ohio. I came home on holidays. One time, my friend invited me to his house in Chicago. About 7 of us friends and, including my parents and friends’ parents were there. I was about 17 years old. Fr Murphy also went to that party. Before Fr Murphy went home, he called me over to the house’s bedroom and shut the door. He asked me to sit and he sat, asked me to forgive him, I said nothing, inside me I said why me and when he tried to hug me< I push him away and said I will scream, he left the room. Later in the car with parent going back home, they ask me, “oh you go to confession with Fr Murphy?” I smiled, but inside myself I say I hope I never see Fr Murphy again.

I want to add, when I said bad word to teacher or misbehaved, I get into trouble and have to see Fr Murphy. He would tell me to take my pant off and he used the back of his hand to hit my penis often and it hurt a lot.”