

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

Date Report Taken: February 22, 2008

Time: Phone  In Person

Received By: Amy Peterson

REDACTED

Person Reporting:

Phone Number:

Address:

[REDACTED]

Allegations made by:  
(if not same as above)

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Date of Birth: [REDACTED]

Age at time of

Allegations: Five

Allegations Against:

Father Lawrence Murphy

Time Period:

1971

Where:

St. John's School for the Deaf, Milwaukee WI

Reported: (Previously? To Whom?)

**Alleged Abuse:**

[REDACTED] reported that his mother sent him to St. John's School for the Deaf in 1971. His family lived in [REDACTED] Illinois so [REDACTED] lived at St. Johns and went home on weekends and holidays. [REDACTED] stated that he was scared and confused when he was brought to stay at St. Johns. He said he behaved awkwardly. He remembered one evening, not long after he arrived there, that he was woken up during the night while he was sleeping in his dormitory. He stated that someone was rubbing his hand, chest and thigh and when he opened his eyes he saw it was Fr. Murphy. [REDACTED] stated he was very startled and confused. Fr. Murphy then took [REDACTED] hand and put it on Murphy's penis, over his clothing. After that, Murphy then put his hand on [REDACTED] penis. [REDACTED] stated that Murphy told [REDACTED] to stay quiet, [REDACTED] said he didn't understand, but was so scared he didn't do anything. The incident took a few minutes and then Murphy stopped and walked away. [REDACTED] said that Sr. Martha Ann was the dorm supervisor and during this incident, the door to her room was closed. [REDACTED] stated that this incident made his confusion and anxiety worse during his years at St. Johns.

[REDACTED] reported that he was emotionally troubled while at St. Johns. He stated that although there was only one incident of abuse by Fr. Murphy, he suffered terrible physical abuse at the hands of Sr. Bertand and Sister Claude. They used a variety of wooden implements to punish him. He stated that during his years at St. Johns he lived in constant fear of being punished for his stubborn and emotionally disruptive behavior. He said he acted out because he was scared. [REDACTED] reported that Tom Tannehill sexually assaulted him in 1974 in three separate incidents in the gymnasium. He said the he and another student [REDACTED] were together and both abused by Tom in all three incidents. [REDACTED] stated that Tom forced both he and [REDACTED] to perform oral sex on him.

[REDACTED] also reported that Mr. [REDACTED] another staff person at St. Johns sexually assaulted him. He stated that Mr. [REDACTED] was the dorm supervisor and would come out of his room with sexy colored underwear. He would rub his own chest and then pull down his underwear and force [REDACTED] to perform oral sex on him. [REDACTED] stated that he was physically forceful and would punch him in the chest and stomach to get him to perform oral sex. [REDACTED] stated that he remember three such incidents during 1974/75.

[REDACTED] told this reporter that he did not want the information about Mr. [REDACTED] to be reported to law enforcement at this time and wanted it to be confidential. This reporter told [REDACTED] that he had a right to go to the police or District Attorney's office at anytime, or this report could be sent on if he changed his mind. During this interview, [REDACTED] referred to his photo in several year books from St. Johns. He also used it to reference the staff members named in this report.

**History:**

[REDACTED] was sent to St. John's when he was four or five years old. He said his parents were divorced and that his mother although Lutheran by religion had heard St. Johns was a good school. [REDACTED] is the only deaf member of his family. He stated that when he went home on visits he would insist to his mother that he didn't want to go back to St. Johns but didn't tell her why, so she continued to send him back. He stated that he came forward to this reporter because he had recently begun therapy with a provider who referred him to this reporters office. He stated that he has been living with the shame and anxiety of what happened for forty

years. He said his experience at St. Johns was horrific, and when he left at the age of eleven and enrolled at a public deaf school, he was relieved and was able to function better. He stated that no abuse occurred at the public school and he realized how awful his experience at St. Johns was. [REDACTED] said that he has seen other survivors at reunions for St. Johns and they have told him that they received funds for compensation and he didn't believe them. He said that he was relieved to have finally reported this incident. He was able to do so because the therapist treating him had this reporter's contact information. The other deaf survivors did not give him my contact information.

**REDACTED**

**Next Steps:**

[REDACTED] would like to continue in therapy with financial support of the Archdiocese. He pays for it on his own because he has a very high deductible on his insurance coverage. He also would like to pursue mediation.

Archbishop Timothy Dolan

Bishop Richard Sklba

Fr. Curt Frederick (Clergy)

Fr. Al Veik (Religious)

Rick Tank (Non-Cleric)

Barbara Anne Cusack

Bishop William Callahan

District Attorney

Intake form  
SAZ/Revised 2/25/08

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