

## State of Maine

## OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL MEMORANDUM

To:

Priests File

From:

Leanne Robbin, Assistant Attorney General

Chief, Financial Crimes and Civil Rights Division

Date:

August 6, 2003

Subject:

Meeting at the Diocese on July 10, 2003

On July 10, 2003, Brian MacMaster and I met with Monsignor Marc Caron, Sister Rita-Mae Bissonette and their attorney, Fred Moore, to discuss the Diocese's response to allegations of child sexual abuse by priests. Specifically, Brian and I came to the meeting with the intent to ask about eight different priests:

Sabatino, Vallely, Interests:

With respect to Vallely, the Diocese received five complaints against him during the period January through March 1993 for conduct occurring in 1962 through 1963. Vallely was retired at that time in Florida. The Diocese notified the Bishop in Florida and Vallely's right to practice was removed. He died in 1997. He did undergo some outpatient treatment in Florida.

With respect to Sabatino, in September 1958, the parents of a young girl met with the Bishop to complain about his conduct. As a result, the Diocese placed restrictions on him, including no contact with the victim or the parish and a prohibition against travel to Lewiston. In 1963 to 1967, he was removed to St. Peter's. He was moved again in 1970 to St. Joseph's in Brewer, and then to Pittsfield. In placing him at St. Peter's, the Diocese informed the parish priest of the allegations. There was no parish council at that time. The Diocese did not receive another complaint against Sabatino until 1993. Sabatino died in 1990.

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