

411 East Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee Wisconsin 53202-4497
414/277-5000
FAX 414/271-3552

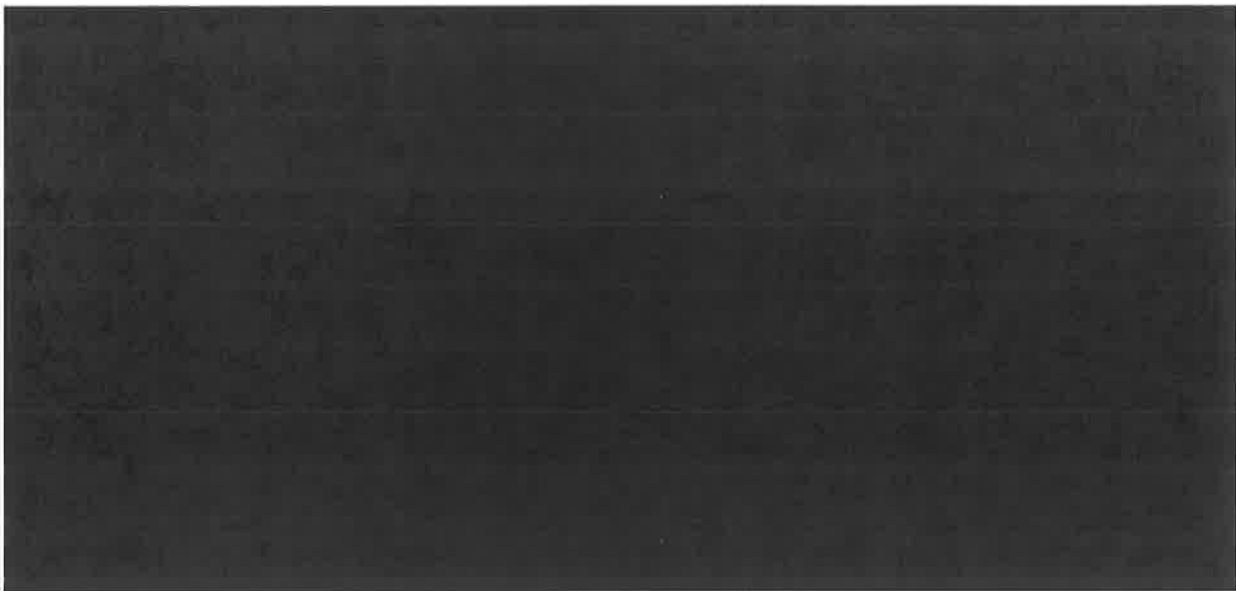
Attorneys at Law in
Milwaukee and Madison, Wisconsin
West Palm Beach and Naples, Florida
Phoenix, Arizona

Quarles & Brady

MAY 24 1994

May 24, 1994

Mr. Wayne Schneider
Archdiocese of Milwaukee
P.O. Box 07912
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53207-0912



Yours truly,

QUARLES & BRADY

Matthew J. Flynn

MJF: jlm

cc: Most Rev. Rembert G. Weakland, O.S.B.
Most Rev. Richard J. Skiba
Fr. R. Thomas Venne
Dr. Elizabeth Piasecki

QB2\71652.

ADOM019571

Congregation of the Immaculate Conception

1023 EAST RUSSELL AVENUE • MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN 53207

Phone: 483-8333

Info

April 23, 1970

Dear Archbishop,

I would like to take this opportunity to inform you that I have been accepted for the summer graduate program in theology at Oxford University in England. The pastor and priests of this parish have agreed to this as a beneficial effort and I have arranged interim substitutes until I return in August. The Personnel Board is likewise being made aware of my absence from the parish for this period of time.

When you appointed me to the Ecumenical Commission in November I fully began to realize the personal need of continuing education in Ecumenical Theology.

Sincerely yours,
Fr. John A. O'Brien ✓

11111

ADOM019682

Church of the Presentation

North Fond du Lac, Wisconsin 54937

September 29, 2000

Dear Archbishop Warkland,

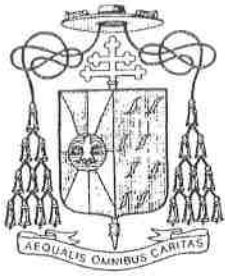
Please accept my resignation as
Pastor of Presentation Parish in
North Fond du Lac, Wisconsin
effective midnight on October
2nd, 2000.

Sincerely yours.

Rev. John A. O'Brien

CC. Bishop Richard SKIBA
CC. Very Rev. Joseph HORWACEK

ADOM019722



REMBERTUS GEORGIUS

Miseratione Divina et Apostolicae Sedis Gratia

Archiepiscopus Milvauchiensis

PRECEPT

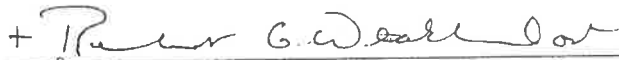
In response to the pastoral needs of this Christian community, in virtue of my authority as diocesan bishop (c. 381, §1), and in accord with the provisions of canon 49, I formally place upon Reverend John O'Brien the following obligations:

- 1) To refrain from all contact with minors, vulnerable adults, and other persons or categories of persons who have proven to be occasions of temptation in the area of sexual morality;
- 2) To cease until further notice all public ministry including the celebration of Eucharist; Eucharist may be celebrated in a private setting alone or with only another priest or priests in attendance; the celebration of any other sacraments will require my explicit permission in each case;
- 3) To avoid all places and situations that, from past experience, have been occasions of serious temptation in the area of sexual morality;
- 4) To cease any and all activities and relationships that may be described under the broad category of pastoral counseling;
- 5) Until further notice the faculty to hear confession is revoked.

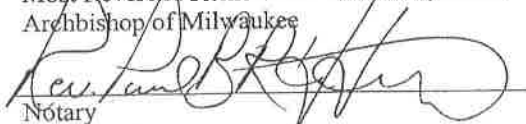
The reasons motivating this decree are the allegations of sexual activities in violation of the obligation of clerical celibacy (c. 277, §1). These restrictions are seen as necessary and prudent precautions and will remain in effect for three months from this date or until notice of their revocation. Any violations of this precept could result in penal action and this decree shall serve as canonical warning to that effect.

This decree shall be executed by means of its communication to Reverend John O'Brien by Very Reverend Joseph Hornacek.

Given this 19th day of December, 2000.

+ 

Most Reverend Rembert G. Weakland, O.S.B.
Archbishop of Milwaukee


Notary

SEAL

ADOM019725

November 7, 2000
Contact: Jerry Topczewski, 414-769-3517

Statement of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee

On November 7, 2000, the Archdiocese of Milwaukee confirmed that one of its priests, Fr. John O'Brien, pleaded "no contest" to a charge of fourth degree sexual assault.

Circumstances in which a priest is charged with or convicted of any form of misconduct are taken very seriously by the Archdiocese. The Archdiocese has cooperated fully with authorities throughout this investigation. There has been no evidence of any other incident involving Fr. O'Brien and misconduct with children or adolescents.

Sexual misconduct of any sort is very harmful. Such actions affect the person and their faith, but it can also affect families, parishes and the entire diocese. Churches should be instruments of healing whenever abuse has occurred.

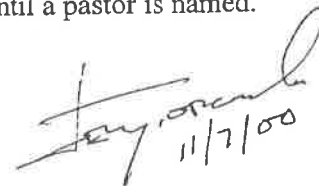
Knowing that seriousness, the Archdiocese of Milwaukee stands committed to providing assistance to victims. Individuals seeking more information about how to make a report can contact area pastors or contact Dr. Elizabeth Piasecki at the Archdiocese at 414/769-3436.

Fr. O'Brien has been granted a personal leave of absence to participate in a long-term, comprehensive therapy program. No decisions will be made on any future pastoral assignments until Fr. O'Brien completes the therapy program and a full evaluation report is received and reviewed by archdiocesan personnel officials.

The Archdiocese confirmed the misconduct charges on September 27. Immediately officials met to discuss the allegations based upon the values we hold as a Catholic community. Fr. O'Brien resigned as pastor of Presentation Parish in North Fond du Lac, Wis., effective October 2.

Fr. Roy Mateljan was appointed temporary administrator of the parish on October 13 and will serve the parish's pastoral and administrative needs until a pastor is named.

###


11/7/00


ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE
OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

January 3, 2002

Reverend John A. O'Brien

[REDACTED]
Eden, WI 53019

Dear John,

I am aware that Joe Hornacek will be meeting with you soon. While we are concerned about your health situation, we also have to continue being careful about how we proceed with some unresolved issues. I know that Joe will discuss with you the continuation of restrictions on ministry.

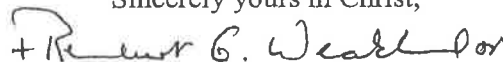
At the same time, I am expecting you to assist us with sorting some of the disturbing financial questions that arose as a result of your administration at Presentation Parish. From the information provided from parish records, the following irregularities seem to have occurred:

- 1) A loan (unauthorized by the directors of the parish) to "HRH Prince Hadji Mohd Al-Alsagof Eldik" in the amount of \$25,032.50;
- 2) Cost of personal telephone calls made by you and not reimbursed to the parish in the amount of \$10,364.21;
- 3) Use of the stipend account for payment of personal items for your benefit in the amount of \$7,250.80.

I ask that you provide information on each of these issues to Joe Hornacek. Your report should include both an analysis of what occurred and a plan for repayment of any debt to the parish arising from inappropriate financial management.

Thank you for your cooperation as we attempt to bring these matters to a resolution.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Most Reverend Rembert G. Weakland, O.S.B.
Archbishop of Milwaukee



REMBERTUS GEORGIUS

Miseratione Divina et Apostolicae Sedis Gratia

Archiepiscopus Milvauchiensis

PRECEPT


In response to the pastoral needs of this Christian community, in virtue of my authority as diocesan bishop (c. 381, §1), and in accord with the provisions of canon 49, I formally place upon Reverend John O'Brien the following obligations:


- 1) To refrain from all contact with minors, vulnerable adults, and other persons or categories of persons who have proven to be occasions of temptation in the area of sexual morality;
- 2) To cease until further notice all public ministry including the celebration of Eucharist; Eucharist may be celebrated in a private setting alone or with only another priest or priests in attendance; the celebration of any other sacraments will require my explicit permission in each case;
- 3) To avoid all places and situations that, from past experience, have been occasions of serious temptation in the area of sexual morality;
- 4) To cease any and all activities and relationships that may be described under the broad category of pastoral counseling;
- 5) Until further notice the faculty to hear confession is revoked.

The reasons motivating this decree are the allegations of sexual activities in violation of the obligation of clerical celibacy (c. 277, §1). These restrictions are seen as necessary and prudent precautions and will continue in effect for an additional three months from this date or until notice of their revocation. Any violations of this precept could result in penal action and this decree shall serve as canonical warning to that effect.

This decree shall be executed by means of its communication to Reverend John O'Brien by Very Reverend Joseph Hornacek.

Given this 5th day of April, 2001.



Most Reverend Rembert G. Weakland, O.S.B.
Archbishop of Milwaukee


Notary

SEAL

ADOM019742


ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE
OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

February 3, 2003

Reverend John O'Brien

██████████
Eden, WI 53019

Dear John,

As I continue to adjust to my role as Archbishop, I am undertaking a review of files of priests. I note that there have been problems in your past of which you are well aware. Father Hornacek will be contacting you for a personal meeting in the near future to discuss this situation with you on my behalf. If you want to meet with me personally at some point after your conversation with Joe, I am certainly open to that possibility.

In the meantime, I see that a precept restricting your exercise of ministry is in place. I would like to confirm those restrictions: You are to have no unsupervised contact with minors and no public exercise of ministry; Private celebration with only another priest or priests in attendance is permitted, but no other sacramental ministry. Given the current state of matters, I would also ask that you not wear your collar in public settings, nor present yourself in public as a priest. This is for your protection as well.

I regret that my first formal correspondence with you needs to be on such a delicate and painful matter. I am sure you understand that the scope of my responsibilities in caring for the flock entrusted to me and for you requires that I do so.

Sincerely in Christ,



Most Reverend Timothy M. Dolan
Archbishop of Milwaukee

ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE

CLERGY ADVOCACY AND MONITORING PROGRAM PROTOCOLS

I John A. O'Brien, an ordained priest/deacon
Rev. John Albert O'Brien

of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee have read and fully understand the protocols detailed below. I acknowledge they are intended to assist me in leading a life that is holy, virtuous and appropriate, befitting that of an ordained minister of the Catholic Church. I understand they are also intended to support my desire to lead a life within socially accepted boundaries.

The Clergy Advocacy and Monitoring Program protocols that I have been notified of, and are applicable to my individual case, are as follows: All of the Tier # 1 -Monitoring Protocols and the below listed sub-sections

Tier #1, Section #2, sub-section #:

- A. Cannot Identify himself as a priest or deacon.
- B. Must not wear "clerical garb" such as the "Roman collar" or any other garb or symbol that would cause someone to believe he was a cleric of the Catholic Church.
- C. Must provide his current address and telephone number(s), including landline and cell phones, and e-mail address(es). He may also be required to move his residence to a residence that is approved by the archbishop.
- D. Is prohibited from performing any public act of worship, e.g., no sacramental ministry, no public prayer or worship service of any type.
- G. Is forbidden to own or possess any indecent or pornographic materials, e.g., magazines, periodicals, movies, books, etc.
- I. Must provide automobile and drivers license information as requested. Must notify the program managers or program coordinator of any restrictions placed against the member's driving privilege (driver's license) granted by the State of Wisconsin through the Department of Transportation or any recognized court. Must maintain a daily mileage

log indicating start and finish mileage as well as destination. The log and odometer of the individual's vehicle(s) shall be inspected regularly by the program coordinator.

- J. Must meet with the program coordinator on regularly scheduled basis, e.g., once per month, twice per month, bi-monthly, to be determined by the program managers.
- K. Agrees to unscheduled visits at his residence by the program coordinator. These visits may be made at any time of the day or night, seven days per week.
- M. Must agree to meet with assigned "onsite" monitors as designated by the program managers.
- N. Must notify the program coordinator anytime that he is leaving his city of residence for an extended period of time (in excess of 24 hours). All "out-of-town" or vacation travel must be submitted to the program managers or program coordinator for approval before travel is allowed. Information to be presented is to include the destinations(s), date(s), of departure, date(s) of arrival and itinerary. All out-of-town travel must be in the company of another person approved by the program managers.
- O. Must notify the program managers or the program coordinator anytime he is detained by law enforcement for any reason, i.e., routine stop due to time of day/night and area, suspicious circumstances as defined by law enforcement, traffic or other stop, issuance of citation(s) for any local or state ordinance or law violations, arrest(s), or any other reasons for/of confinement by law enforcement.
- P. Must abide by any other directives established due to special circumstances as deemed necessary and appropriate by the program managers.
- Q. Must comply with the aforementioned restrictions and/or guidelines to receive additional compensation. Failure to comply with the restrictions could cause a reduction in salary and/or benefits provided to the member by the Archdiocese of Milwaukee.
- R. Must not have any contact with alleged victims or their families without express written consent from civil authorities and/or the archbishop.
- S. Will meet with an approved spiritual director on a regular basis. The name of the director and how often they meet will be provided to the program manager and/or coordinator.

Special Directives:

P#1-Must not go to Marian College or other places where young boys/men congregate or frequent without a companion.

P#2-Must abide by all of the precepts currently in force and issued by Most Reverend Richard J. Sklba on July 22, 2002 and affirmed by Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan.

In signing this document I state that I will comply to the above declared protocols. I also attest to the fact that I have been given a copy of these protocols and of the entire Clergy Advocacy and Monitoring Program Manual. I understand the protocols go into effect at the time of my signing of this document.

John A. O'Brien
Priest/deacon participant signature

March 31 2005
Date & Time

Rev. Cesar Stelzner
Program Manager(s) signature

3-31-05 10²⁵ AM
Date & Time

Joseph P. J. [Signature]
Program Coordinator Signature

3-31-05 10³⁵ AM
Date & Time

**MOST REVEREND RICHARD J. SKLBA
ADMINISTRATOR**

PRECEPT

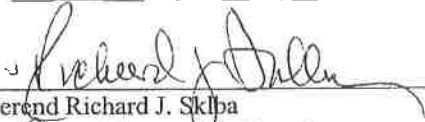
In response to the pastoral needs of this Christian community, in virtue of my authority as diocesan administrator (c. 427, §1), and in accord with the provisions of canon 49, I formally place upon Reverend John O'Brien the following obligations:

- 1) To refrain from all contact with minors, vulnerable adults, and other persons or categories of persons who have proven to be occasions of temptation in the area of sexual morality;
- 2) To cease until further notice all public ministry including the celebration of Eucharist; Eucharist may be celebrated in a private setting alone or with only another priest or priests in attendance; the celebration of any other sacraments will require my explicit permission in each case;
- 3) To avoid all places and situations that, from past experience, have been occasions of serious temptation in the area of sexual morality;
- 4) To cease any and all activities and relationships that may be described under the broad category of pastoral counseling;
- 5) Until further notice the faculty to hear confession is revoked.


The reasons motivating this decree are the allegations of sexual activities in violation of the obligation of clerical celibacy (c. 277, §1). These restrictions are seen as necessary and prudent precautions and will remain in effect from this date until notice of their revocation. Any violations of this precept could result in penal action and this decree shall serve as canonical warning to that effect.

This decree shall be executed by means of its communication to Reverend John O'Brien by Very Reverend Joseph Hornacek.

Given this 22nd day of July, 2002.



Most Reverend Richard J. Sklba
Administrator, Archdiocese of Milwaukee



Notary

SEAL

ADOM019897



CONGREGATIO
PRO DOCTRINA FIDEI

00120 Città del Vaticano,
Palazzo del S. Uffizio

4 January 2006

PROT. N. 394/03-22223
(In responsione fiat mentio huius numeri)

CONFIDENTIAL

Your Excellency,

The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith has received the documentation you sent regarding the **Reverend John A. O'BRIEN**, a priest of your Archdiocese, accused of the sexual abuse of minors, who has asked from the Holy Father the grace of dispensation from all the obligations of the priesthood, including the obligation of celibacy.

After having carefully examined the present case, I wish to inform you that this Dicastery is positively disposed towards the request made by Rev. O'Brien. However, such petition, in a form as is enclosed in the documentation Your Excellency sent to this Dicastery, cannot be forward to the Holy Father for his decision. The petition addressed to the Holy Father should contain at least an admission of guilt and a sincere expression of remorse. The impossibility to return to active ministry because of the cleric's offences is not in itself a sufficient reason. Your Excellency is therefore kindly requested to invite the Rev. O'Brien to write a petition which will contain the above-mentioned elements.

Awaiting the courtesy of your reply, with prayerful support and best wishes, I remain

Yours sincerely in Christ,

✠ Angelo AMATO, SDB
Titular Archbishop of Sila
Secretary

His Excellency
The Most Reverend Timothy M. DOLAN
Archbishop of Milwaukee
Office of the Archbishop
3501 South Lake Drive
Milwaukee, WI 53207-0912, USA.

ADOM019899


ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE
OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

September 23, 2003

His Eminence, Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger
Prefect, The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith
00120 Vatican City State
Europe

Your Eminence,

May I respectfully submit herewith to the judgement of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith the petition of the Reverend John A. O'Brien, a priest of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, to be dispensed from all obligations attached to sacred orders, including celibacy, and to be returned to the lay state. Father O'Brien has been accused of sexual abuse of a minor and, has resigned as Pastor of Presentation B.V.M. Parish in North Fond du Lac, Wisconsin.

Let me explain the allegation. On September 14, 2000, the Vicar for Clergy met with Father O'Brien to discuss his relationship with a boy who had alleged inappropriate behavior on the part of Father O'Brien. In August of 1999, this 17-year-old boy began to come to the parish rectory and church to visit with Father O'Brien. After only a few visits they began to hug each other at the end of their time together. Shortly thereafter, in the basement of the church building, Father O'Brien and the boy had explicit sexual contact with both touching each other's penis. A similar incident took place a few weeks later.

No further contact of communication of any kind took place until June of 2000 when there was similar sexual activity in the parish rectory. This boy then contacted the police. Father O'Brien was arrested and acknowledged his responsibility both to the police and in civil court, as well as to Church authorities. He was criminally convicted.

I have informed Father O'Brien that I am unable to return him to ministry at any time in the future.

I am convinced that Father O'Brien has accepted this reality and now he wants to move on with his life. Hence, he humbly and freely request that he be dispensed from all obligations resulting from Holy Orders, including celibacy, and be returned to the lay state. In fact, a letter from Father O'Brien to our Holy Father is enclosed and indicates this desire. I strongly support this petition.

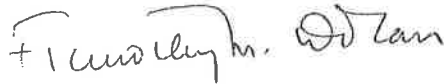
Moreover, Father James Connell, my Vice Chancellor, interviewed Father O'Brien, who discussed the accusation against him and indicated his free-will desire for laicization.

In addition, this accusation against Father O'Brien is not the only accusation of sexual misconduct against Father O'Brien. Recently, we have received a report on another incident. We are turning the case over to officials in the State of Illinois for possible sexual abuse of a minor in the Chicago area.

Finally, I am very certain that no scandal would arise if this dispensation were granted to Father O'Brien. In fact, it would help bring closure to a very difficult and sad situation.

Thank you for your kind consideration in this regard and I have the honor to be, Your Eminence,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Timothy M. Dolan".

Most Reverend Timothy M. Dolan
Archbishop of Milwaukee ,

August 7, 2003

Pope John Paul II
Vatican City

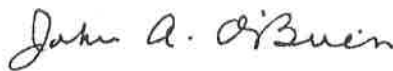
Dear Holy Father:

I would like to express my great thanks for forty years of my purity ministry in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, and a special thanks for your inspiring example as our spiritual leader during most of this time. I am very grateful, indeed.

Because of a Court decision regarding an issue of sexual abuse, Archbishop Dolan of Milwaukee has informed me that I will not return to active ministry. so I am sending my resignation from priestly ministry to you.

My prayers and thanks to you always.

Sincerely Yours,



Rev. John A. O'Brien

[REDACTED]
Eden, Wisconsin 53019-U.S.A.

ADOM019926


ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE
OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

September 6, 2005

Archbishop Angelo Amato, SDB
Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith
Piazza del S. Uffizio 11
00193 Rome, Italy

Your Excellency:

Currently pending before the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith is the petition for laicization from Reverend John A. O'Brien of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee sent to the Apostolic Nuncio on November 29, 2004. As you are aware from the supporting documentation, Father O'Brien was criminally convicted and placed on 18 months probation. That probationary period has expired but civil authorities have continued to express concerns about his activities. We have attempted to keep him in a monitoring program. There have been two recent developments in this case that should be brought to your attention.

On August 19, 2005, Deacon David Zimprich, coordinator of the monitoring program, was contacted by a Probation and Parole Agent from the State of Wisconsin, Barbara Kode-Braun. She asked to send him information about recent developments involving Father O'Brien. That information arrived on August 22, 2005. It included a police report from 2001 in which an additional allegation of sexual abuse of a minor by Father O'Brien was made. This case involves an adolescent [REDACTED] whom Father O'Brien met while serving at St. Mary Springs High School in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. The sexual contact was reported as beginning when [REDACTED] was 14 and continuing until he turned 18. The materials received from the Probation and Parole Agent are enclosed.


Deacon Zimprich followed up with an interview with [REDACTED]. In the course of that interview it came to light that Father O'Brien had been maintaining contact with [REDACTED] in a manner that could be construed as intrusive and controlling. Especially troubling was the report that Father O'Brien has been observed on a number of occasions in the local library with adolescent boys. A copy of the interview report is also enclosed.

Obviously efforts at monitoring him are not successful. We are currently pondering the wisdom of relocating him to the archdiocesan pastoral center in the retired priests' wing. However, if he does not comply with the request, we have no means of forcing such relocation.

The potential for great scandal exists. If Father O'Brien, while still in the clerical state, makes any inappropriate advances on any of these adolescent boys in whose company he has been observed, the outcry will be huge. The scandal lies not in the laicization but in the perception that the Church has not acted expeditiously enough, knowing the multiple reports of abuse. Given the number of years he spent at the high school, there remains the distinct possibility that yet more victims will come forward. Therefore, I humbly request that his petition for laicization be expedited.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. With sentiments of esteem and prayerful best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Timothy M. Dolan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'T' and 'D'.

Most Reverend Timothy M. Dolan
Archbishop of Milwaukee

ADOM019939

State vs John A O'Brien

Judgment of Conviction

COPY

Date of Birth: 11-01-1938

NOV 7 2000

Sentence Withheld, Probation Ordered

Case No.:

The defendant was found guilty of the following crime(s):

Ct.	Description	Violation	Plea	Severity	Date(s) Committed	Trial To	Date(s) Convicted
1	4th Degree Sexual Assault	940.225(3m)	No Contest	Misd. A	between 5-1-00 & 5-31-00		11-07-2000

IT IS ADJUDGED that the defendant is guilty as convicted and sentenced as follows:

Ct.	Sent. Date	Sentence	Length	Concurrent with/Consecutive to/Comments	Agency
1	11-07-2000	Withheld, Probation Ordered	18 MO		DOC

Conditions of Sentence or Probation

Obligations: (Total amounts only)

Fine	Court Costs	Attorney Fees	Restitution	Other	Mandatory Victim/Wit. Surcharge	5% Rest. Surcharge	DNA Anal. Surcharge
1240.00	20.00			5.00	50.00		

Miscellaneous Conditions

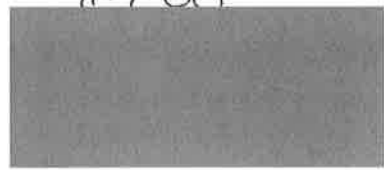
Ct.	Condition	Agency/Program	Comments
1	Fine		
1	Psych treatment		Counseling to be continued and completed at St Louis Consultation Center, and any counseling determined by the probation officer.
1	Other		Defendant to return to St. Louis to complete the six month treatment program he is currently enrolled in. No unsupervised contact with minors, under the age of 18.



I hereby certify that I have compared this copy with the original, and it is a true and correct copy thereof.

- True copy thereof
- Correct transcript therefrom
- Photograph of the original

11-7-00



State of Wisconsin

Circuit Court

County

STATE OF WISCONSIN

Plaintiff,

-VS-

John A. O'Brien

North Fond du Lac, WI 54937

DOB: 11/1/38

Sex/Race: M/W

Defendant,

DA Case No.: [REDACTED]

Assigned DA/ADA: Thomas L. Storm

Agency Case No.: [REDACTED]

Court Case No.: [REDACTED]

ATN: [REDACTED]

Criminal Complaint

Agent Kim Skorlinski, being first duly sworn, states that:

Count 1: FOURTH DEGREE SEXUAL ASSAULT

The above-named defendant between May 1 and May 31, 2000, in the Village of North Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County, Wisconsin, did have sexual contact with [REDACTED] (d.o.b. [REDACTED]), without that person's consent, contrary to sec. 940.225(3m) Wis. Stats., a Class A Misdemeanor, and upon conviction may be fined not more than Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000), or imprisoned not more than nine (9) months, or both.

PROBABLE CAUSE:

Complainant is an agent with the Wisconsin Department of Justice Division of Criminal Investigation and has reviewed the official reports of Detective Sergeant Paul Clarke of the Village of North Fond du Lac Police Department, whom he knows to be truthful and reliable based on past experience, and has conducted interviews with citizen witness [REDACTED] (d.o.b. [REDACTED]) as well as the defendant, John A. O'Brien (d.o.b. 11/1/38).

Complainant knows that [REDACTED] initially went to see O'Brien, a Catholic priest at the Church of Presentation, to discuss problems he was having with a [REDACTED] in which [REDACTED] had been involved two to three years earlier. [REDACTED] stated that he was at O'Brien's residence, [REDACTED] Village of North Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County, Wisconsin, on approximately fifteen occasions between November, 1999, and June, 2000.

[REDACTED] stated that O'Brien "forced me to have sex with him" explaining that during the month of May, 2000, O'Brien reached under [REDACTED] boxer shorts and fondled [REDACTED] genitals. [REDACTED] stated that the incident occurred in O'Brien's bedroom at the residence; that [REDACTED] told O'Brien he did not want him to do that; that O'Brien had ordered [REDACTED] to take off his clothes and that [REDACTED] took all his clothes off except for his boxers; that the incident lasted two or three minutes. [REDACTED] stated that similar incidents occurred on other occasions.

On July 12, 2000, DCI Special Agent Kyra Schallhorn conducted a computerized voice stress analysis on [REDACTED] and determined that no deception was indicated on any of the relevant questions related to the sexual assault allegations.

On August 1, 2000, [REDACTED] met with O'Brien on the steps of the church and told O'Brien that he wanted an apology for O'Brien touching [REDACTED] genitals; O'Brien stated that he was sorry for anything that he had done wrong. On August 16, 2000, O'Brien told Skorlinski and Clarke that [REDACTED] had been at the residence on several occasions; that [REDACTED] had been in O'Brien's bedroom and had taken off his pants and underwear but did not acknowledge touching [REDACTED]; but that [REDACTED] placed O'Brien's hand on [REDACTED] genitals.

Based on the foregoing, the complainant believes this complaint to be true and correct.

FILED

OCT 24 2000



ADOM019944

Subscribed and sworn to before me,
and approved for filing on:

This 24th day of October, 2000.

Kim J. Storkink
Complainant

Thomas L. Atwood
(Assistant) District Attorney

State Bar No. 1005717

COPY

Incident Report

CITY FDL POLICE

Incident No	Date & Time Rept	Offense: 948.025		
	05/31/2001 09:56	ENGAGING IN REPEATED ACTS OF SEX ASS		
Occurred From:	Occurred Until:	Incident Location		
10/01/1976 00:00	03/01/1980 00:00			
Current Disp	Disposed To	Municipality	District	
EXCEPTION		FOND DU LAC		
Disposition Date	Juveniles Only?	TTY Sent?	Cancelled?	TTY number
05/31/2001	NO	NO		
Photos?	Consent?	Affidavit?	Optional Date/Time	
NO	NO	YES	/ / 00:00	
Officer Assigned	Investigating Officer			
135 RAZNER, DANIEL E	135 RAZNER, DANIEL E			

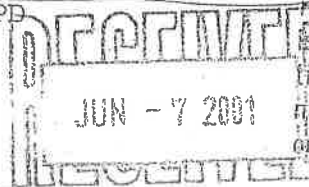
NOTES

clues report

copies to: Det Razner

Francisco Sallas/Probation & Parole
Paul Clarke/NFDL PD

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PERSONS

Name/Address/Phone	Description
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
COMPLAINT 948.025	ENGAGING IN REPEATED ACTS OF SEX ASSAULT
05/31/2001	
OBIEN, JOHN A	Born 11/01/1938 MALE
[REDACTED]	Hgt. 5'10" WHITE
N FOND DU LAC WI 54937	Wgt. 212 NON-HISP
[REDACTED] ()	Hair BROWN Eyes BROWN
SUSPECT 948.025	ENGAGING IN REPEATED ACTS OF SEX ASSAULT
05/31/2001	

Description/Name/Comments	Make/Model/Stat	Serial No./Qty/Value
NO PROPERTY		
Status/Plate Type/VIN	Reg/Evid/Value	Description
NO VEHICLES		
Category	Description	
NO M.O. INFORMATION		

Continued

CITY FDL POLICE

Incident No	Date & Time Rept	Offense: 948.025
	05/31/2001 09:56	ENGAGING IN REPEATED ACTS OF SEX ASS

N TAKEN FROM WORDPERFECT DOCUMENT

A
R On 05/29/01 at approximately 2:15 PM I went back to the Fond du Lac
R County Jail to speak with a [REDACTED]. The reason I went
A back to speak with him is because I had noticed a vehicle which is
T a [REDACTED] with license number [REDACTED] parked in the
I parking lot in front of the Safety Building for quite some time.
V The vehicle is listed to a John OBrien and after doing some
E checking it was determined that [REDACTED] actually was in
possession of the vehicle. [REDACTED] had turned himself in to
the Fond du Lac County Jail on [REDACTED]

I went back to the jail to speak with [REDACTED] about the vehicle
however I also was aware of the fact that the owner of the vehicle,
John OBrien, had recently been convicted of a sexual assault in
North Fond du Lac. Francisco Sallas (sp) who is currently John
OBrien's probation agent requested that I speak with [REDACTED]
about this vehicle. Francisco Sallas had actually contacted John
OBrien who is currently in a treatment center in St. Louis MO and
OBrien indicated that [REDACTED] was in possession of the vehicle.

When speaking with Francisco Sallas he had advised me that John
OBrien indicated that there were no other victims of sexual assault
that he was involved in other than the incident that he is
currently on probation for. Sallas and myself both thought it
possible that [REDACTED] may have also been a victim and this was one
of the reasons why I was going to speak with [REDACTED]

When speaking with [REDACTED] I did immediately read him the Miranda
Warnings because he was in custody and [REDACTED] did agree to speak
with me. When speaking with [REDACTED] about the vehicle he
indicated that the vehicle was brought to him by John OBrien
sometime after [REDACTED] [REDACTED] said that he was

It was at this time that Father OBrien told [REDACTED] about the
sexual assault complaint and [REDACTED] said he left for Almond WI
shortly there after. [REDACTED] said that the sexual assault
complaint then made the paper possibly one to two weeks after
Father OBrien advised him of this. [REDACTED] said that he then
stayed in Almond until April 27 2001 when he turned himself in.

[REDACTED] indicated that when Father OBrien brought the car to him
in [REDACTED]
Father OBrien actually then rented a different vehicle in Appleton
and drove back to the St. Louis MO area where Father OBrien was
seeking treatment in a treatment facility. Apparently Father
OBrien went to the facility around November of 2000. Francisco
Sallas had advised me that this treatment was part of the sentence

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Date Printed: 05/31/2001

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Continued

CITY FDL POLICE

Incident No	Date & Time Rept	Offense: 948.025
[REDACTED]	05/31/2001 09:56	ENGAGING IN REPEATED ACTS OF SEX ASS

N that was given to Father OBrien for this sexual assault complaint.

A [REDACTED] indicated that he has known Father OBrien for about 30
R years. When speaking with [REDACTED] he at one point indicated that
A he was not sure if he wanted to discuss his relationship with
T Father OBrien any further as he didn't want to incriminate himself
I or get anyone else in trouble. When he talked about incriminate
V himself at first I thought he was talking about how he came upon
E possession of the vehicle but he indicated that the vehicle had
been given to him by Father OBrien and that it was not a stolen
vehicle by any means.

We did then discuss his relationship with Father OBrien which again
was a lengthy relationship. [REDACTED] indicated again they met at
Springs around 1976 and that [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] indicated that a sexual relationship with Father OBrien
started about a week after [REDACTED] [REDACTED] said that the
sexual relationship lasted until [REDACTED] was about 18 years of age.
I asked [REDACTED] how many times a sexual occurrence would have happened
and he indicated any where from 50 to 100 times. I asked [REDACTED]
where these incidents would have happened and he indicated they
would have occurred at three different locations one being [REDACTED]
current residence at that time [REDACTED] Motel 6 in Fond du
Lac and also a farm in Eden where Father OBrien's father apparently
resided.

I also asked [REDACTED] if any force was used when these incidents
occurred and he indicated that there was no physical force but that
Father OBrien had loaned money to [REDACTED] on many occasions and
Father OBrien used these loans as a reason to perform these sexual
acts.

I asked [REDACTED] if the sexual contact continued past the age of 18
and [REDACTED] said that it did not. He said that he has actually
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

I asked [REDACTED] if he had ever advised anyone else of this sexual
contact and he indicated that the first time he told anyone was
sometime between 1989 and 1991 when he was a patient at the
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] indicated that he told the counselor at that time. He
said that he also told family members including his brother and his
sister at around that same time frame. He also advised me that he
did speak with a Father at St. Joe's Church possibly a Father Heppe
about this as well. He was not sure if it was Father Heppe but
that was the name that came to him at the time.

[REDACTED] also advised me that after Father OBrien advised him of this

Continued

CITY FDL POLICE

Incident No	Date & Time Rept	Offense: 948.025
	05/31/2001 09:56	ENGAGING IN REPEATED ACTS OF SEX ASS

W new complaint around November of 2000 that [redacted] himself
A actually sat down and wrote out a bunch of notes pertaining to his
R contacts with Father OBrien back in 1976 through 1980. He said
R that this information is documented and his sister, [redacted]
A has that information. [redacted] did provide me with a phone number to
T contact his sister if I needed that information.

V I asked [redacted] if there were any other victims that he knew of and he
E indicated that he had suspicions but he was not sure if there were
any other victims. [redacted] indicated that until November of 2000 he
did not think that there were any other victims and thought that he
was the only victim. He said now that this new victim came forward
he believes now that there may have been other victims.

I advised [redacted] that I would check with the District Attorney's
office to see if the statute of limitations had run out for this
particular complaint and that I would get back to him. [redacted]
indicated that he was concerned that there are more victims and
that there could potentially be future victims and that is why he
is relaying this information to me at this time. He indicated that
he thought about coming forward on several occasions but did not
want to be the only one coming forward and this is why he did not
do so.

On 05/30/01 I did speak with District Attorney Tom Storm who
advised me that at this point it appears to him that the statute of
limitations had run out for any prosecution for this complaint
involving [redacted] as a victim.

On 05/31/01 I did go back to the Fond du Lac County Jail and did
speak with [redacted] about this. I advised him about the
statute of limitations information I received from DA Tom Storm.

I also did question [redacted] about what type of sexual contact had
occurred and he indicated that the contact involved both oral and
hand contact by Father OBrien on [redacted]. [redacted] said that
he himself never actually had any hand or mouth contact on Father
OBrien. [redacted] also advised me that he did contact his sister and
his sister was going to be sending him the documentation that he
put together pertaining to his contacts with Father OBrien. [redacted]
said that he would provide me with either the original or a copy of
that information.

I advised [redacted] that I would be contacting the N Fond du Lac Police
Department and also the State Of Wisconsin who did the previous
investigation involving Father OBrien to see if they would be
interested in this information.

I did then contact Paul Clarke of the N Fond du Lac Police
Department and advised him of this information. Paul Clarke
indicated that he had already heard the name of [redacted]
however knew that [redacted] and had not

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Date Printed: 05/31/2001

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ADOM019949

Continued

CITY FDL POLICE

Incident No	Date & Time Rept	Offense: 948.025
[REDACTED]	05/31/2001 09:56	ENGAGING IN REPEATED ACTS OF SEX ASS

N
A
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E

yet talked to [REDACTED] about Father OBrien. Paul Clarke did later contact me and indicated that the state may possibly be interested in this information and are definitely interested in [REDACTED] documentation as to what had occurred.

I also did contact Francisco Sallas at Probation and Parole and advised him of the information as well.

Pertaining to the vehicle itself [REDACTED] indicated that he did contact his brother who was going to be sending the keys to the vehicle to the brother of Father OBrien who was going to remove the vehicle.

At this point this complaint is being generated for information for Probation Agent Francisco Sallas as it appears as though the statute of limitations has expired for any future prosecution purposes.

Detective Razner/mjm

Interview with Fr. John O'Brien

The Vicar, Fr. Joseph Hornacek, met with Fr. John O'Brien on Thursday, September 14, 2000. Fr. O'Brien gave the following description of any relationship he had with a [REDACTED] who claims to be 17 years old, and who has alleged inappropriate behavior on the part of Fr. O'Brien.

The first time Fr. O'Brien met [REDACTED] was in August of 1999 when [REDACTED] rode his bicycle onto the parish property of Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church (St. Mary's), Fond du Lac. [REDACTED] mother was a guest at a wedding celebrated by Fr. O'Brien earlier that month. No one from [REDACTED] family is a parishioner at St. Mary's. Fr. John and [REDACTED] chatted for about 15 minutes. Four days later [REDACTED] showed up again on his bicycle and told Fr. John that his name was [REDACTED] and that he was a Satanist who was bothered by "visions" of two ghosts on a staircase. In another informal conversation that took place on the parish grounds Father O'Brien began to explain the possibility of angels. [REDACTED] stated he didn't want to hear anything about angels. It was again a brief conversation. The following week [REDACTED] returned again and did so approximately five times during that month of August, 1999. There were never any appointments; he simply rode his bicycle around the parish grounds. Fr. O'Brien never asked [REDACTED] to come to the parish.

On one of the above visits Fr. O'Brien invited [REDACTED] into the house and remembers giving him a hug at the end of the visit. During the third week of that month of August, both of them were in the kitchen and Fr. O'Brien recalls [REDACTED] "brushed across my crotch" while I was giving him a hug.

The next time both of them met in the church basement. Again a hug took place and at that time [REDACTED] pulled Fr. O'Brien's zipper down as well as the zipper on his own trousers. [REDACTED] put his own hand on Fr. O'Brien's penis and placed Fr. O'Brien's hand on his own penis. Fr. O'Brien said nothing to discourage this behavior which lasted a very short time because someone else came down into the church basement.

At the end of that same month of August, 1999, [REDACTED] stopped by once more and told Fr. O'Brien that he was going to school [REDACTED] This visit took place in the rectory. During a hug [REDACTED] pulled Fr. O'Brien's pants down and pulled his own zipper down and again put his hand on Fr. O'Brien's penis and Fr. O'Brien's hand on his own penis. Fr. O'Brien remembers showing [REDACTED] the rest of the house on this occasion.

There was no further contact or communication of any kind from the end of that month of August until June of 2000. During the first week of June [REDACTED] again rode his bicycle onto the parish grounds and said he had returned from school in [REDACTED] and that he would stop around.

Apparently there was an appointment for which [REDACTED] did not show up. He phoned after that to say that he wanted to talk to Fr. O'Brien. He arrived during the second week of June and they chatted in the house and nothing happened on that

occasion that Fr. O'Brien can recall. During the third week of June, [REDACTED] returned and put his arms out for a hug. Both were in the house on the first floor. [REDACTED] unfastened Fr. O'Brien's pants and his own and Fr. O'Brien said "Excuse me?" [REDACTED] then led them both upstairs to the second floor and Fr. O'Brien went to the TV room. [REDACTED] moved on to Fr. O'Brien's bedroom and commented about the ring that was sitting on Fr. O'Brien's dresser. [REDACTED] started to pull up Fr. O'Brien's shirt. He had his own pants undone and then took off his own shirt. He asked Fr. O'Brien if he wanted to lie on the bed. Fr. O'Brien said "No". [REDACTED] asked Fr. O'Brien to lay down on top of him. Fr. O'Brien did lay partially on him and once again [REDACTED] put Fr. O'Brien's hand on his own penis. [REDACTED] asked Fr. O'Brien to suck him like his friend does. Fr. O'Brien said "No". There was no oral or penile sex.

Fr. O'Brien went downstairs after this and [REDACTED] followed. [REDACTED] asked to see him again and Fr. O'Brien said no.

Two or three days later Fr. O'Brien was on the second floor of the rectory in the TV room and had fallen asleep in his chair at about 6:30 p.m. He heard someone in the house and he called out but there was no answer. He heard the person coming up the stairs because the stairs squeak. Fr. O'Brien called out again and the person replied "It's [REDACTED]". Fr. O'Brien reprimanded him for coming into the house. [REDACTED] asked if he might come back another time but Fr. O'Brien said he was too busy with council meetings and liturgical obligations.

On June 21st, the night of the Parish Council meeting, Fr. O'Brien remembers locking the doors of the rectory and going over to the church basement for the council meeting. He does not remember checking whether or not he tightly closed the door upon locking it. After the council meeting Fr. O'Brien returned to the house and found the door ajar in the sense that he did not need a key to open it. On June 25th of that week the secretary told Fr. O'Brien that someone had taken the candy out of her candy dish on the desk and that 2 or 3 dollars of change was missing from her desk drawer. Two rolls of stamps were also missing from the desk drawer. Candle money bag with an undetermined amount of money was also missing from the office closet. Fr. O'Brien noticed that two of his desk drawers were also ajar. A couple days later Fr. O'Brien told his secretary, Helen Rueter, that he could not find his ring that had been upstairs on his dresser. Fr. O'Brien noted approximately July 4th that [REDACTED] had not been around for several days and wondered whether or not he might have been the one who had robbed the rectory. A short time thereafter during the week of July 4th Fr. O'Brien saw [REDACTED] talking to another young man down the block from the church rectory, and when [REDACTED] saw Fr. O'Brien he took off on his bicycle.

About July 6th or 7th, [REDACTED] phoned the rectory and asked to meet with Fr. O'Brien on the church steps. On that occasion Fr. O'Brien told [REDACTED] that some things were missing from the rectory but [REDACTED] retorted that he did not come to talk about that. [REDACTED] stated that Fr. O'Brien was his counselor and Fr. O'Brien denied this. Fr. O'Brien stated that while they had some chats he never counseled him. [REDACTED] had always come on his own to talk about things. [REDACTED] stated "I told you about my family and that was

counseling.” On that same occasion ██████ admitted that he was not 18 years old as he had previously told Fr. O’Brien. Fr. O’Brien continued to ask about the missing items in the rectory and ██████ replied, “What’s that compared to what you did to me?” He continued to talk to Fr. O’Brien about being responsible for preaching the Gospel and being upset with Fr. O’Brien. Fr. O’Brien said he would help him how ever he could. He further stated that if he need money parish groups could help him out. ██████ then became very loud (all of this conversation was taking place outdoors on the church steps) and accused Fr. O’Brien of touching him. Fr. O’Brien was now very uncomfortable because of the volume of ██████ accusations as he continued to shout “You touched me.” ██████ kept looking down the street (the police station is located about 2 blocks distant from the rectory). Fr. O’Brien wondered whether or not ██████ was wired, because of his loud volume in asking these questions of Fr. O’Brien and placing his hand into his own pocket as if he had some weapon or had a transmitter. ██████ would become angry every time that Fr. O’Brien again referred to the robbery. ██████ said we will meet again.

A couple of days later ██████ phoned and said he wanted to see Fr. O’Brien again on the church steps. This time he repeated all of the questions and accusations of Fr. O’Brien again in a very loud voice. Fr. O’Brien asked him if he knew anything about the burglary and ██████ said “What does all that mean compared to what you did to me?”

It was two weeks later that two men from the police department stopped to see Fr. O’Brien, allegedly about the school burglary that had taken place two years before. The secretary recognized one of the police officers from the Fond du Lac Police Department but did not recognize the second person. Fr. O’Brien was not at home at the time.

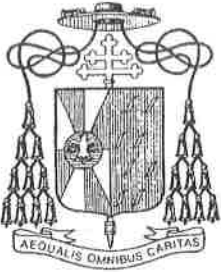
On a second occasion both of these officers stopped when Fr. O’Brien was not there and were told to make an appointment with him. They did come over then after making an appointment and one of the so-called officers was special investigator, Kim Scorsinski, from Appleton, the other was Chief of Detectives from the Fond du Lac station. They asked Fr. O’Brien if he knew ██████ They also stated that they had heard rumors of a burglary having taken place in the rectory. Fr. O’Brien told them details of what was missing from the rectory including five of his personal rings valued at approximately \$2800. They asked him who he thought did this. Fr. O’Brien stated he suspected ██████ had done this. Fr. O’Brien went on to describe how he had chatted on several occasions with ██████ earlier that summer. They asked Fr. O’Brien if he had physical contact with ██████ Fr. O’Brien admitted the incident in the rectory when each of them had his hand on the other’s penis. Because the officers had begun the interrogation by talking about the burglary, Fr. O’Brien claims he had been lulled into giving more information than he probably should have. Fr. O’Brien contacted Mr. Gerry Boyle to serve as his attorney. Mr. Boyle stated that ██████ claimed that Fr. O’Brien and ██████ met about 17 times and that Fr. O’Brien forced him to have sex. Fr. O’Brien denies the number of times that they met and states that he never initiated any of these contacts. He felt sorry for the young man because of some of the family issues they discussed and that he was a Satanist. The police then asked Fr. O’Brien to fill out a police report. Fr. O’Brien had called Attorney Boyle and told him the entire story. Mr. Boyle then went to see the District Attorney who Fr. O’Brien believes is Tom Storm.

Mr. Boyle was scheduled to meet with the District Attorney on September 12th. Fr. O'Brien did take a lie detector test on September 5th.

The only other piece of information that Fr. O'Brien recalled was that on a given Saturday he had also heard the front door of the rectory open and when he got to the window he saw [REDACTED] leaving the rectory on that occasion even though there was no verbal contact between the two in the house on that occasion.

Fr. O'Brien was given the names of two psychotherapists and he agreed to contact one of them later that afternoon. Fr. O'Brien phoned the Vicar's office on the afternoon of September 14th to confirm that he had indeed called Dr. [REDACTED] and left word on her voicemail that he wanted to see her as soon as possible.

The Vicar contacted Attorney Matt Flynn to inform him that he had met with Fr. O'Brien that day.



REMBERTUS GEORGIUS

Miseratione Divina et Apostolicae Sedis Gratia

Archiepiscopus Milvauchiensis
PRECEPT

In response to the pastoral needs of this Christian community, in virtue of my authority as diocesan bishop (c. 381, §1), and in accord with the provisions of canon 49, I formally place upon Reverend John O'Brien the following obligations:

- 1) To refrain from all contact with minors, vulnerable adults, and other persons or categories of persons who have proven to be occasions of temptation in the area of sexual morality;
- 2) To cease until further notice all public ministry including the celebration of Eucharist; Eucharist may be celebrated in a private setting alone or with only another priest or priests in attendance; the celebration of any other sacraments will require my explicit permission in each case;
- 3) To avoid all places and situations that, from past experience, have been occasions of serious temptation in the area of sexual morality;
- 4) To cease any and all activities and relationships that may be described under the broad category of pastoral counseling;
- 5) Until further notice the faculty to hear confession is revoked.

The reasons motivating this decree are the allegations of sexual activities in violation of the obligation of clerical celibacy (c. 277, §1). These restrictions are seen as necessary and prudent precautions and will remain in effect for three months from this date or until notice of their revocation. Any violations of this precept could result in penal action and this decree shall serve as canonical warning to that effect.

This decree shall be executed by means of its communication to Reverend John O'Brien by Very Reverend Joseph Hornacek.

Given this 25 day of dec., 2001.

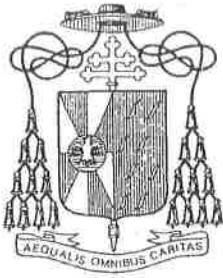
+ Rembert G. Weakland, O.S.B.

Most Reverend Rembert G. Weakland, O.S.B.
Archbishop of Milwaukee

Rev. John D. Aiello
Notary

SEAL

ADOM019976



REMBERTUS GEORGIUS

Miseratione Divina et Apostolicae Sedis Gratia

Archiepiscopus Milvauchiensis

PRECEPT

In response to the pastoral needs of this Christian community, in virtue of my authority as diocesan bishop (c. 381, §1), and in accord with the provisions of canon 49, I formally place upon Reverend John O'Brien the following obligations:

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This decree shall be executed by means of its communication to Reverend John O'Brien by Very Reverend Joseph Hornacek.

Given this 18th day of March, 2002.

+ Rembert G. Weakland

Most Reverend Rembert G. Weakland, O.S.B.
Archbishop of Milwaukee

Rev. John D. Aiello

Notary

SEAL

ADOM019977

260. John O'Brien
April 16, 2003 John O'Brien is seen by Vicar as follow-up to the Archbishop's letter. He is informed the restrictions of not wearing the Roman collar or presenting himself as a priest are new. He is told his case will be submitted to CDF, Rome, to request Administrative Laicization. JFH
466. John O'Brien
June 24, 2003 John O'Brien writes Vicar to request being placed on disability retirement because of his permanent right eye disability (40% vision without reading ability), his diabetes and other concerns of declining health. He also is prepared to seek voluntary laicization. JFH
490. John O'Brien
June 30, 2003 John O'Brien phones Vicar while in town because Vicar's voicemail message to O'Brien last week was interrupted by technical difficulties. Vicar acknowledges receipt of John's letters of 6/12/03 which were received 6/23/03, accepting proposal to seek voluntary laicization and giving update on his health status. Vicar informs John that Jim Connell has been notified about the laicization request and John is to contact Connell after July 21, 2003 for further instructions. JFH
297. John O'Brien
On June 30, 2003, in the context of a meeting of the Internal Communications group, I learned that Fr. John O'Brien requested voluntary laicization. RJS
248. John O'Brien
On June 3, 2004, in response to an inquiry from the Chancery, I indicated my personal hesitation to simply share the entire O'Brien file with Barbara Reinke's office, especially prior to Barbara Anne's return from Rome, where she was in consultation with Roman authorities regarding his case. RJS
533. John O'Brien
June 7, 2004 Vicar receives copy of sexual abuse report from Dr. Barbara Reinke re allegation of sexual abuse by John O'Brien against [REDACTED] about 1967-1968 at O'Brien family farm in Fond du Lac. JFH

May 12, 2003

Rev. John O'Brien

Eden WI 53019

Dear John,

During our recent meeting on April 16, 2003 you and I talked about various possibilities for retirement and the amount of financial support the Archdiocese is able to continue to provide to you, depending upon the scenario you would choose.

Because of your recent eye surgery, your diabetic condition, and related problems of decreasing health, I can imagine that you could seek early retirement based upon a letter from your primary physician to confirm your need to retire before the age of 68 years because of these several health factors. In this instance your retirement would be termed "disability retirement" and you would receive the full monthly benefit which is now given to retired priests at the age of 68 or older, namely \$1250 a month. Health and dental insurance premiums will also be paid for you.

Because the Archbishop has indicated that you will not serve again as a priest, you also have the option of seeking voluntary laicization.

If a priest elects voluntary laicization, we would offer what has been our practice, if not policy, for more than a decade, namely \$10,000 when the petition is submitted and \$10,000 when a definitive response is received, regardless of the contents of the response. We would offer, in addition, and new to our practice, minimum support during the time the case is in process. That minimum support would be the monthly amount a pensioned priest receives. During the processing of the case we would also provide some outplacement assistance. This assistance could consist of payment for services from a career counseling office, such as the one at Marquette or Stritch. These services provide the individual with information about how to "translate" their skills from one career to another. We could then offer three sessions of outplacement assistance which provides help with resume writing, interviewing skills, etc.

John, I've already informed you that if you choose not to seek voluntary laicization the Archbishop will submit your case to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith in Rome. During this time that the penal process is imposed, and this could last for up to a year, the archdiocese would be responsible for supporting you to the same extent that a retired priest now receives support, namely \$1250 a month. (This level of support will in fact begin with the 2003-2004 fiscal year, July 1, 2003.) At the conclusion of the penal trial, if there is a penalty imposed of dismissal from the clerical state, your canonical obligation of support ceases but some small amount could be given to you in charity.

May 12, 2003

In all instances we would maintain you on our health insurance for one year at diocesan expense. You would then be free to ask for an additional six months of coverage, but at your own expense. This coverage would cease as soon as you had employment providing this benefit.

To my best recollection, John, these are the options which we discussed at our last meeting. After careful perusal of the above information if you have any questions or need for further clarification, please be in contact with my office.

With prayerful best wishes for improved health and a renewed sense of hope during this difficult time of transition, I am

Fraternally yours in the Lord,

V. Rev. Joseph F. Hornacek
Vicar for Clergy

JFH/ks

ADOM020026

September 14, 2001

[REDACTED] Ph.D.
Clinical Director
The Saint Louis Consultation Center
[REDACTED]
St. Louis, MO 63117

Dear Dr. [REDACTED]

Thank you for sending a copy of the final report regarding Fr. John O'Brien's participation in the intensive treatment program of the St. Louis Consultation Center. I understand that these materials are to be destroyed after use and not to be made a part of the permanent record of Fr. O'Brien's file. I am also aware that these records are kept on file at your Consultation Center for at least the next 5 years.

I remain most grateful and appreciative to you and your entire staff, particularly Sr. [REDACTED] CSJ, Sr. [REDACTED] SSND, Fr. [REDACTED] SCJ, and [REDACTED]

You should know that I have already obtained the assistance of Dr. [REDACTED] a renowned psychotherapist here in the Milwaukee area, who has agreed to continue to assist Fr. John O'Brien in his journey of healing. When speaking with Fr. O'Brien earlier this week, I learned that in a conversation he had with his probation officer, Mr. Francisco Salas, that he was being asked to take a lie detector test in order to confirm two additional allegations of sexual abuse for which Fr. O'Brien was responsible approximately 20 years ago. These alleged victims came forward within the past couple of months, and reports have been filed with the police department in Fond du Lac County. I have advised Fr. O'Brien to be in contact with his attorney, Mr. Gerry Boyle, in order that he might confidently comply with the recommendations of his probation officer as necessary.

At this time I am somewhat discouraged by this latest report and question the advisability of Fr. O'Brien's return to parochial ministry. Of course, I will await the receipt of further substantial data before making any final decisions in this matter.

Grateful again for all the assistance that you have been to Fr. O'Brien, I am

Sincerely yours,

V. Rev. Joseph F. Hornacek
Vicar for Clergy

JFH/ks

November 27, 2000

██████████ Ph.D.
Clinical Director
The Saint Louis Consultation Center
██████████
St. Louis, MO 63117

Dear Dr. ██████████

Thank you for the copy of the results of a comprehensive assessment performed with Fr. John O'Brien during the week of October 16, 2000. I appreciate the detailed reports which were submitted by ██████████ who covered the psycho-social history of Fr. O'Brien, Sr. ██████████ who conducted the spiritual interview, and your own psychological evaluation. Please know that I shared all of this information with Archbishop Rembert Weakland who joins me in expressing gratitude for the thoroughness of your report.

I have spoken recently with Fr. O'Brien and am confident that he remains committed to full cooperation with the treatment program. Therefore he is significantly frustrated by the delay in returning to St. Louis because of several questions posed by his probation officer. I have just learned that his attorney Jerry Boyle plans to obtain a court order on Wednesday, November 29th to secure John's immediate return to St. Louis.

Should there be any insistence on John's participation in a residential treatment program, I will be in contact with you for your recommendation. However it is my firm hope that John will be able to continue to make progress at the St. Louis Consultation Center where he has already committed himself to this intensive treatment program.

Though I am out of the office until December 6th, my administrative assistant, Sr. ██████████ will be able to reach me if my consultation is necessary.

Sincerely,

V. Rev. Joseph F. Hornacek
• Vicar for Clergy

JFH/ks

		Assignment	From	To	History	Status
O'Brien	John	Imm Conc (Mke)	1964	1971	Criminal conviction in 2000 (First known offence)	2000 - Leave w/ full restrictions
		St. Patrick (Fond du Lac)	1971	1971	Admission of guilt – pleaded no contest	2003 Filed for laicization
		St. Mary Springs HS	1971	1990		
		Presentation (N FdL)	1990	2000	New intakes: One in 2003 reporting a case from 1978, one in 2004, and one in 2005 (current case being mediated)	

Current Mediation:

■ of Fond du Lac. There was sexual abuse as a teen ager. There is a strange ongoing attempt by O to intervene in ■ life. ■ has observed O at the public library with young teens and is worried.

Dave Zimprich interviewed ■ and his two reports will be e-mailed to you by Dave. When the Archbishop was in Rome a few weeks ago, the O case was one he personally requested be given expedited treatment at CDF.

ARCHDIOCESE  OF MILWAUKEE
OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

July 8, 2004

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL



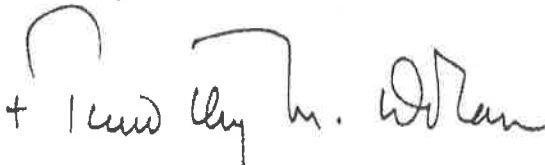
Dear 

In line with the assurances given in the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, I have authorized the release of the names of priests who are now or would have been restricted from all priestly ministries. These men can not celebrate the sacraments publicly or represent themselves as priests in any way.

This action will bring with it additional publicity. My concern is that the publicity may bring you, personally, additional anxiety, stress or other difficulties. If you need to talk to someone, please do so. If you would like to contact our office for Sexual Abuse Prevention and Response Services, please call 414-769-3436.

What happened to you was not your fault and should never have happened. For that, I apologize in the name of the Church. I hope our actions as a Church in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee and my actions as archbishop continue to provide for healing. Please know you remain in my prayers.

Faithfully in Christ,



The Most Reverend Timothy M. Dolan
Archbishop of Milwaukee

February 19, 2004



Dear 

Please allow me to continue to update you about developments that may concern you.

On February 27, 2004 the findings of the "John Jay Study" will be released. This study was commissioned by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops at their Dallas meeting in June, 2002. John Jay College of Criminal Justice conducted a survey, and this report will include cumulative numbers from dioceses across the United States who reported on their individual numbers since 1950.

Naturally you will be interested in this news story because of its personal dimensions for you, but many victim/survivors have also let me know how extensive media coverage of clergy sexual abuse causes intense personal disruption and setbacks. In addition to a "heads up" about the turmoil you may face, let me make a few suggestions about how you might manage this time period.

- Be in charge of your media doses, rather than let it control you. Choose when and where and how much exposure you want. Turn off the TV or radio and put away the newspaper, as needed. Let people know if you don't want to talk about it now.
- Turn to people who offer you genuine caring and support. Distinguish these from the people who have another interest or purpose in talking to you about your personal relationship to the topic. Remember that you have choices about whether you publicly identify yourself as a victim. Talk with people with whom you feel "safe."
- Consider making an appointment with your therapist if you don't already have one. If you have not taken advantage of our offer to assist financially with psychotherapy, but would like to do so, please contact me. There are also support groups that focus on the healing needs of sexual abuse survivors, for which I can provide information. You are welcome to turn to me as a support person as well.

Previously we informed you that a new mediation program, independent of the Archdiocese, was forthcoming. The Clergy Sexual Abuse Mediation System is designed to resolve disputes for those who have been sexually abused by Catholic clergy, with the goal of healing, restoration and closure. If you are not already registered to participate in mediation, you may do so by calling 414-302-9215 or 1-866-302-9215. The last date for requesting mediation if you choose to seek resolution.

February 19, 2004

Page 2

I pray and hope that your journey as a survivor of clergy sexual abuse starts to become easier. For the Catholic Church it is a necessary time of public accountability in order to be responsible for what happened in the past, to change the culture and ways of operating in the present, and to practice prevention in the future. As we have said before, no words or actions erase the burden you have borne as a result of this issue.

May God be with you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara Reinke". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

Barbara Reinke, Ph.D.
Sexual Abuse Prevention & Response
Archdiocese of Milwaukee

BR:saz

ADOM037219

COPY

January 1, 2004

Dear [REDACTED]

I write to you because you have experienced, firsthand, the pain caused by sexual abuse within the Church, and you courageously reported the abuse to the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. No words can apologize sufficiently for your experience, but I will continue to try by saying again how sorry I am. Knowing that no remedies can adequately address the harm done, I still want to make you aware of a variety of services available to you and intended to assist in your healing.

Dispute resolution services to address your unique needs for recovery will become available in mid-January. Eva Soeka, a nationally known expert in dispute resolution systems, is creating a process independent of the Church that will make use of the best mediators in the area. I continue to believe that this initiative represents the best way for us to meet together about your situation and provide assistance. More details and information about how to enter into this process will be available in mid-January. At this time, I ask you to start considering if this might be the right next step for you.

Catholic Charities is also offering a new support group in Milwaukee for adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse. This group will offer a faith-based perspective, and is meant to supplement other support groups available in the area. A flyer is enclosed.

Financial assistance with psychotherapy also remains available. To access this, or for other questions about our services, please contact Dr. Barbara Reinke in our office for Sexual Abuse Prevention and Response Services (414-769-3436 or reinkeb@archmil.org). Also enclosed is a brochure about our policies and procedures when a report is made.

I continue to meet privately with those victim-survivors who find that helpful. Please contact me at 414-769-3496 if you would like to arrange such a meeting. We have also arranged for several priests, sisters and lay ministers, who are professionally-trained in providing spiritual direction, to be available. If you would like to speak with one of them, please contact Barbara Anne Cusack, my delegate for sexual abuse issues, at 414-769-3341.

It is also important for me to communicate with you about our efforts to prevent clergy sexual abuse in the future. Our *Code of Ethics* makes it clear that no such behavior is to be tolerated within ministry. Our *Mandatory Reporting Responsibility* policy specifies that any employee or volunteer working in our parishes and schools must report any suspicion of abuse. In addition, all adult staff, and volunteers who work with children are required to participate in training to enhance awareness of childhood sexual abuse.

One final thing: if you would prefer not to have further contact from me or from any Church representative, please let us know using the enclosed return letter and pre-stamped envelope.

Much more remains to be done, and we welcome your suggestions. You can use the enclosed response letter and envelope for that purpose as well.

Please know that I am concerned about you and I pray for you. I apologize for the past misdeeds and wish to restore your wholeness as best we can.

Faithfully in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Timothy M. Dolan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'T' and a cross at the end.

Most Reverend Timothy M. Dolan
Archbishop of Milwaukee

LAICIZATION RESCRIPT - UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION
Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith

Prot. N.: 394/03 - 28974

Milwaukee

Reverend John A. O'BRIEN, a presbyter of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, has humbly petitioned for a dispensation from all the obligations connected with sacred Ordination.

Our Most Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI

On the 3rd day of April, 2009

Having heard the opinion of his Eminence and Most Reverend Prefect of this Congregation, has granted the request of the presbyter for the good of the Church, but with the following provisions:

1. The rescript of the dispensation, being made known by the competent Ordinary to the petitioner as soon as possible:

a) becomes effective from the moment of the notification;

b) inseparably includes a dispensation from sacred celibacy and, at the same time, loss of the clerical state. The petitioner never has the right to separate those two elements, that is, to accept the first and refuse the second;

c) if the petitioner is a religious, the rescript also grants a dispensation from the vows.

d) indeed, further, it carries with it, insofar as it is necessary, absolution from censures.

2. Notification of the dispensation can be made to the petitioner either personally, or through one delegated by the same Ordinary, or through an ecclesiastical notary, or by "registered mail." The Ordinary ought to retain one copy (of the rescript) duly signed by the petitioner in testimony of his reception of the rescript of the dispensation, and also of his acceptance of its regulations.

3. Notice of the granting of the dispensation is to be inscribed in the baptismal register of the Petitioner's parish.

4. With regard to the celebration of a canonical marriage, the norms set down in The Code of Canon Law must be applied. The Ordinary, however, should take care that the matter be discreetly handled without pomp or external display.

5. The ecclesiastical authority, to whom it belongs to notify the petitioner concerning the rescript, should earnestly exhort him to take part in the life of the People of God, in a manner consonant with his new mode of living, to give edification, and thus to show himself a most loving son of the Church. At the same time, however, he should be informed of the following points:

a) the dispensed priest automatically loses the rights proper to the clerical state, as well as ecclesiastical dignities and offices; he is no longer bound by the other obligations connected with the clerical state;

ADOM039818

- b) *he remains excluded from the exercise of the sacred ministry, with the exception of those functions mentioned in canons 976 and 986, §2 of the Code of Canon Law, and, as a result, he may not give a homily nor is he able to hold a directive office in the pastoral field nor to exercise the function of parochial administrator;*
- c) *similarly, he may not discharge any function in seminaries and in equivalent institutions. In other institutions of higher studies, which are in any way whatever dependent upon ecclesiastical authority, he may not exercise the function of director;*
- d) *also, in those institutions of higher studies which are not dependent upon ecclesiastical authority, he may not teach any discipline which is properly theological or closely connected with the same;*
- e) *on the other hand, in institutions of lower studies, which are dependent upon ecclesiastical authority, he may not exercise the function of teaching a discipline which is properly theological. A dispensed presbyter is held by the same rule in teaching Religion in an institution of the same kind not dependent upon*

6. The Ordinary is to take care lest the dismissed presbyter, due to a lack of due prudence, exhibits scandal to the faithful. This pastoral care seriously urges the Ordinary with the greatest if any danger of abuse of minors, however remote, is present.

7. At an opportune time, the competent Ordinary is to send a brief report to the Congregation on his completion of the notification, and, finally, if there should be any wonderment on the part of the faithful, he is to provide a prudent explanation.

All things to the contrary notwithstanding.

From the Offices of the Congregation, the 3rd day of April in the year 2009.

/s/ +Aloisius Franciscus LADARIA, SJ
 Titular Archbishop of Thibica
 Secretary

/s/ Reverend Charles I. Scicluna
 Promotor of Justice

Date of notification: _____

 Signature of petitioner as sign of acceptance

 Signature of Ordinary

FILE COPY

Archdiocese of Milwaukee
Support and Safety Plan

May 6, 2008

John O'Brien

Address: [REDACTED]

Telephone number(s): [REDACTED]

E-mail:

Oversight Program Representative: Deacon David L. Zimprich

I, John O'Brien, have reviewed the following requirements which have been designed to assist me in living a life of holiness and to be supported in said life.

- I. I will continue to meet with Deacon Zimprich every three weeks for ongoing support and liaison between Archbishop Dolan and/or his designee.
- II. I will continue to meet with my Spiritual Director, Rev. Edward Sippel, on a regular basis.
- III. I will continue to receive the Sacraments, especially the Eucharist and Reconciliation, to assist me and strengthen my life of holiness. I will also spend meaningful time in prayer daily.
- IV. I will continue to keep in regular contact with Deacon Paul Monzel.
- V. I will not contact [REDACTED] by any means of communication. I will have no contact with any other complainants.

Signature

John O'Brien

Date May 6
2008

Witnessed by

11:47 AM

Deacon David L. Zimprich

ADOM039820

DIOCESE/ORDER	Archdiocese of Milwaukee
NAME OF ORDINARY	Most Reverend Timothy M. Dolan
CDF PROT. N. (if available)	Prot. No. 304/03-22223
NAME OF CLERIC	John A. O'Brien

PERSONAL DETAILS OF THE CLERIC	Date of Birth	November 1, 1938	Age	70
	Ordination	May 30, 1964	Years of ministry	39
ORIGINAL INCARDINATION / INCORPORATION		Archdiocese of Milwaukee		
MINISTRY IN/TRANSFER TO OTHER DIOCESE				
CONTACT ADDRESS OF THE CLERIC		[REDACTED] Eden, WI 53019		
PROCURATOR (include original signed mandate)				
CONTACT ADDRESS OF THE PROCURATOR				
ASSIGNMENTS				
Year	Parish	Location	Appointment	
1964	Immaculate Conception Parish	Milwaukee	Associate Pastor	
1971	St. Mary Springs High School	Fond du Lac, WI	Faculty	
1990	Presentation Parish	N. Fond du Lac, WI	Pastor	
2000	Administrative leave			
ACCUSATIONS AGAINST THE CLERIC				
Year	Victim	Age	Imputable Acts	Denunciation
1999-2000	[REDACTED]	17	Explicit sexual contact (touching penis)	2000
1978	[REDACTED]	17	Explicit sexual contact (touching penis)	2003
1967-1968	[REDACTED]	11-12	Explicit sexual contact (touching penis)	2004
1967-1968	[REDACTED]	9-10	Forced sexual contact with an animal	2007

ADOM039821

CIVIL PROCEEDINGS AGAINST THE CLERIC			
Year	Type/Case	Conviction	Sentence (include copies of civil documents)
2000	██████████ Fourth degree sexual assault (plea bargain for lower charge)	"no contest" admission of guilt	18 months probation, required counseling, \$1,000 fine, no unsupervised contact with minors during probation
2003	██████████ Statute of limitation - no trial		
2004	██████████ Out of court settlement		
2009	██████████ Out of court Settlement		
MEASURES ADOPTED BY THE DIOCESE / ORDER			
Year			
2000	Removed from office, sent for counseling, placed under precept		
2003	Case sent, requesting voluntary laicization		
2006	Second petition sent stating remorse		
SUSTENANCE PROVIDED TO THE CLERIC			
	Receives his vested pension		
RESPONSE/RECOURSE MADE BY THE CLERIC			
Year			
2000	Acknowledged guilt and responsibility		
2003	Sought laicization		

Prot. No. 394/03 – 22223

August 29, 2006

His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI
Vatican City

Dear Holy Father,

While I am grateful to have been able to exercise priestly ministry for forty years in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, I know now that I will no longer be able to do so because of my history of and misdemeanor criminal conviction for sexual abuse of a minor. I sincerely regret my actions that have led to this point and humbly ask that you accept my resignation from priestly ministry.

My prayers for you and the Church will continue.

Sincerely yours,

Rev. John A. O'Brien

ADOM039825

4



ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE
OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

November 19, 2004

His Eminence, Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger
Prefect, The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith
00120 Vatican City State
Europe

Re.: Reverend John A. O'BRIEN

Your Eminence,

Enclosed you will find further documentation concerning the petition of the Reverend John A. O'Brien, a priest of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, who wishes to be dispensed from his obligations attached to Holy Orders, including celibacy, so that he might be returned to the lay state. Additional information has surfaced since my letter to you dated September 23, 2003.

Let me explain the situation that I originally reported to you. On September 14, 2000, the Vicar for Clergy met with Father O'Brien to discuss his relationship with a boy who had alleged inappropriate behavior on the part of Father O'Brien. In August of 1999, this 17-year-old boy began to come to the parish rectory and church to visit with Father O'Brien. After only a few visits they began to hug each other at the end of their time together. Shortly thereafter, in the basement of the church building, Father O'Brien and the boy had explicit sexual contact with both touching each other's penis. A similar incident took place a few weeks later.

No further contact of communication of any kind took place until June of 2000 when there was similar sexual activity in the parish rectory. This boy then contacted the police. Father O'Brien was arrested and acknowledged his responsibility both to the police and in civil court, as well as to Church authorities. In fact, Father O'Brien pleaded "no contest" to the criminal charge and thus was convicted of fourth degree sexual assault. He was sentenced to 18 months probation, a fine of \$1,000 and other restrictions. Documentation concerning this situation is enclosed.


Subsequent to my earlier letter to you, two additional allegations of sexual abuse by Father O'Brien have been reported. In September of 2003, a man who claims that in 1978 Father O'Brien had sexually abused him contacted the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. Then, this past June a third allegation was reported against Father O'Brien. According to this allegation, abuse took place on various occasions during 1967-1968. Both of these additional allegations were reported to the civil authorities. However, no civil action was taken in either case because of the prevailing statute of limitations. Copies of the two sexual abuse intake reports are included for your review.

From the beginning of this unfortunate case care has been taken to see that Father O'Brien had proper advice concerning canon law and civil law, spiritual direction and sufficient financial resource.

Moreover, I am convinced that Father O'Brien is sincere and humble in requesting the dispensation. Hence, I continue to support the request and I am convinced that, if the dispensation were granted, no scandal would result. Furthermore, I judge that an administrative solution to this matter would be better than a penal process for all the parties concerned and for the community at large.

Thank you for your kind consideration of this case, and I have the honor to be, Your Eminence,

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Most Reverend Timothy M. Dolan
Archbishop of Milwaukee

ARCHDIOCESE  OF MILWAUKEE
CHANCERY

COPY

November 29, 2004

The Most Reverend Gabriel Montalvo
Apostolic Nuncio to the United States
The Apostolic Nunciature
3339 Massachusetts, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008-3687

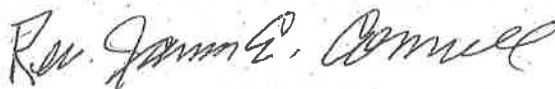
Your Excellency,

Enclosed is a collection of documents concerning the Reverend John A. O'Brien that are being sent to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith.

I request that these documents be forwarded to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith by means of the diplomatic pouch.

Thank you very much for your assistance in this matter and I have the honor to be, Your Excellency,

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Reverend James E. Connell
Vice Chancellor



CONGREGATIO
PRO DOCTRINA FIDEI

00120 Città del Vaticano,
Palazzo del S. Uffizio

3 December 2009

394/03 – 29102

PROT. N.
(In responsione fiat mentio huius numeri)

CONFIDENTIAL

Your Excellency,

This Congregation writes to you concerning the case of the **Reverend John A. O'BRIEN**, a priest of your Archdiocese who had been accused of the sexual abuse of minors.

While I am pleased to note that recent correspondence from this Dicastery has communicated the resolution of this matter on the part of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, I would hereby kindly request the Archdiocese of Milwaukee to make a contribution of US\$ 500 to support the work of this Dicastery. The cheque, or other financial instrument, is to be paid to the "Apostolic Tribunal - Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith".

With gratitude for your understanding and cooperation, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Damiano Marzotto
Msgr. Damiano Marzotto
Undersecretary

His Excellency
The Most Reverend **Jerome Edward LISTECKI**
Archbishop of Milwaukee
Office of the Archbishop
3501 South Lake Drive
Milwaukee, WI 53207-0912, U.S.A.

ADOM039879

June 22, 1964

The Reverend John A. O'Brien
Eden,
Wisconsin

Dear Father O'Brien:

This letter is to inform you that you are herewith appointed curate at Immaculate Conception Parish, Milwaukee, effective Wednesday, July 1st. You will kindly report on that date to the pastor, Father Ryan.

Under separate cover you will receive a signed copy of the Faculties of the Archdiocese.

May I again assure you that you are always most welcome to discuss any of your problems with me.

With the warmest of personal regards and wishing you God's choicest blessings in your priestly work, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend William E. Cousins
Archbishop of Milwaukee

COPY

ADOM045086

September 7, 1965

The Reverend John A. O'Brien
[REDACTED]
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53207

Dear Father O'Brien:

I hereby appoint you a Part-time Instructor of Religion at St. Joan Antida High School, Milwaukee, for the coming scholastic year.

Please report to Sister Mary Letizia, principal of St. Joan Antida High School, as soon as possible.

With warm personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend William E. Cousins
Archbishop of Milwaukee

COPY

ADOM045087

September 2, 1966

The Reverend John A. O'Brien
Immaculate Conception Parish
[REDACTED]
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53207

Dear Father O'Brien:

I hereby appoint you a part-time Instructor of Religion at St. Joan Antida High School, Milwaukee, for the coming scholastic year.

Please report to Sister Mary Joan Antida, principal of St. Joan Antida High School, as soon as possible.

With warm personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend William E. Cousins
Archbishop of Milwaukee

COPY

ADOM045088

April 7, 1971

C
O
P
Y
Reverend John A. O'Brien ✓
Immaculate Conception Parish
████████████████████
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53207

Dear Father O'Brien:

Following the recommendation of the Personnel Board regarding your assignment, I herewith transfer you from your present position as Associate Pastor at Immaculate Conception Parish, Milwaukee, and appoint you temporary Associate Pastor at St. Patrick Parish, Fond du Lac, effective May 4, 1971.

The Personnel Board has informed me that they intend to recommend in the near future that you be assigned as a full time religion instructor at St. Mary's Springs High School, Fond du Lac.

With the warmest of personal regards and wishing you God's choicest blessings, I am

Faternally Yours in Christ,

Most Reverend William E. Cousins
Archbishop of Milwaukee

ADOM045093

June 20, 1975

C
O
P
Y
The Reverend John A. O'Brien
St. Mary's Springs High School
Fond du Lac, Wisconsin 54935

Dear Father O'Brien,

I apologize for my delay in responding to your letter of May 27th in which you outline your plans for continuing your studies toward a Doctoral Degree in Education. Since you will be able to continue your work at the High School, I see no reason for withholding my approval. Even your thesis could very readily have a value beyond that of the present day.

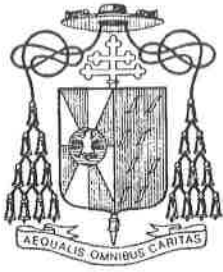
I am a bit concerned that your talents given these many years to the service of St. Mary's Springs do not merit some financial consideration. At the same time I recognize that you are a priest of the Diocese whose Doctorate could very readily serve in areas other than those represented in your present assignment. I would, therefore, be willing to discuss with you some financial arrangements, if you would give me some idea of the overall price tag. I must admit that the close of a fiscal year, with budgets already set for the succeeding year, leaves me unable to arrive at definite conclusions. The Monsignor Keyser Fund of which you speak is legally pretty well tangled up and a reinterpretation of its terms must be submitted to Court Decision. The Board of priests set up to administer the Continuing Education Fund would have to pass upon your request if funds are drawn from that source. These facts, however, do not preclude further exploration for at least a percentage of expenses incurred.

With the warmest of personal regards, I am

Faternally yours in Christ,

Most Reverend William E. Cousins
Archbishop of Milwaukee

ADOM045096



REMBERTUS GEORGIUS

Miseratione Divina et Apostolicae Sedis Gratia

Archiepiscopus Milvauchiensis

PRECEPT

In response to the pastoral needs of this Christian community, in virtue of my authority as diocesan bishop (c. 381, §1), and in accord with the provisions of canon 49, I formally place upon Reverend John O'Brien the following obligations:

- 1) To refrain from all contact with minors, vulnerable adults, and other persons or categories of persons who have proven to be occasions of temptation in the area of sexual morality;
- 2) To cease until further notice all public ministry including the celebration of Eucharist; Eucharist may be celebrated in a private setting alone or with only another priest or priests in attendance; the celebration of any other sacraments will require my explicit permission in each case;
- 3) To avoid all places and situations that, from past experience, have been occasions of serious temptation in the area of sexual morality;
- 4) To cease any and all activities and relationships that may be described under the broad category of pastoral counseling;
- 5) Until further notice the faculty to hear confession is revoked.

The reasons motivating this decree are the allegations of sexual activities in violation of the obligation of clerical celibacy (c. 277, §1). These restrictions are seen as necessary and prudent precautions and will continue in effect for an additional three months from this date or until notice of their revocation. Any violations of this precept could result in penal action and this decree shall serve as canonical warning to that effect.

This decree shall be executed by means of its communication to Reverend John O'Brien by Very Reverend Joseph Hornacek.

Given this 5th day of April, 2001.

Most Reverend Rembert G. Weakland, O.S.B.
Archbishop of Milwaukee

Notary

SEAL

ADOM045153

246. John O'Brien

March 28, 2001 [REDACTED] is informed by Vicar after consulting with Archbishop and Wayne Schneider that a letter will be sent to John O'Brien informing him that he will be held accountable for reimbursing Presentation Parish for the entire "loan" and the phone bill after he returns to some remunerative employment.

JFH

254. John O'Brien

April 3, 2001 John inquires how he is to pay his tax bills since he receives very limited salary. Vicar asks him to send the bills and we will tally the extra money spent to pay his bills. This will be added to what he owes Presentation Parish (\$36,000), for which he will be held responsible as soon as he returns to remunerative employment. He inquires about the 3 month rescript. Vicar will ask Archbishop if this is to be renewed.

JFH

267. John O'Brien

April 5, 2001 John is informed by Vicar that the precept issued by the Archbishop remains in effect throughout his treatment program period in St. Louis. He will receive his copy within a few days. He requests payment for his estimated taxes federal and state totaling \$3232 for January and April 2001.

JFH

316. John O'Brien

April 23, 2001 Dr. [REDACTED] Ph.D. sends interim report from St. Louis Consultation Center to describe John O'Brien's participation, cooperation and progress in the intensive treatment program which he began in October, 2000 for a short time and continued mid-December of same year.

JFH

ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE
CHECK REQUISITION

FILE COPY

Check Amount: \$10,000.00

Date: October 6, 2003

Payee: JOHN A. OBRIEN

Address: 

City, State, Zip: EDEN WI 53019

Purpose of Check: SEVERANCE PAY

Return check to requisitioner

Mail check directly

Requisitioner's Signature

Dept./Office Director Approval


Account Number

Payee Social Security Number: 

Required for individual persons on Payee line. SSN not required for reimbursement requests.

ADOM045168


ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE
DEPARTMENT FOR CLERGY

November 14, 2003

Rev. John A. O'Brien

Eden WI 53019

Dear Father,

Thank you for your phone call today with the information you provided concerning Medicare Part A and B eligibility effective date of 10/1/03 for both parts. It is very helpful to know that you applied for a Medicare Supplement policy through BlueCross/BlueShield and it is effective 11/1/03 at the premium rate of \$95.50/mo. It seems best that you should pay that BlueCross/BlueShield premium monthly, and send me the receipt marked with your check number and date paid together with your request for reimbursement. It is my understanding that since you are in process of laicization and you received a check dated 10/7/03 of \$10,000 from the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, this procedure will continue until your laicization becomes final. Once your laicization is deemed final, the Archdiocese will reimburse you for the first six months of your insurance premium. After that your insurance is on your own.

Dental insurance coverage will be in the retired priests group/section 11441-1680 until your laicization is finalized, then it will be cancelled.

Enclosed with this letter are the pension papers based upon retirement with disability which was approved at the recent meeting of the Pension Board. Please complete and return all items to me.

- Pension Application and Notice of Withholding
- Application for Direct Deposit (ETF) –complete the top portion of the form and ask your bank to complete the bottom portion before you return the form to me.
- Dental Insurance continues until your laicization is finalized. Please complete the enclosed application which merely changes your section number.

PRIESTS' PENSION

Your first pension check will be issued at the end of the month FOLLOWING the date of retirement. It is my understanding that direct deposit begins the month after you receive your first check.

It is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to send notification of any future changes of your address to the Pension Department (and to your insurance carrier).

Effective January 1, 1997 the Archdiocese of Milwaukee Priests' Pension Plan (VI 6.4) was amended to provide that up to 100% of your pension benefit may be designated as rental or housing allowance and therefore not taxable.

November 14, 2003

Please be advised, however, that the amount you exclude from income may not exceed the amount actually used to rent or provide a home. For example, if your annual pension totaled \$15,000 but your actual rent or cost of providing housing was only \$8,700, then only \$8,700 would be excluded from taxable income. The balance of \$6,300 would be included in income on your Federal form 1040. Wisconsin Statute 71.05, which lists modifications to Federal adjusted income, also allows this tax treatment.

I assume you made sure that Medicare is now designated your primary payer after your retirement date, if not call 1-800-944-0051. This is an important responsibility of yours.

Please contact me (414-769-3484 or email: schweihsk@archmil.org or clergy@archmil.org) with any questions. I will be happy to assist in any way I am able.

Sincerely,



Sister Kathleen Schweih
Administrative Assistant
Office of Vicar for Clergy

ADOM045171

**Archdiocese of Milwaukee
Clergy Personnel Action Notice**

Employee # 4264

Effective Date 10/1/03

Last Name O'Brien First Rev. John Middle A.
 Address [REDACTED] City Eden State WI Zip Code 53019
 Country _____ Phone Number [REDACTED]
 SS# [REDACTED] D.O.B. 11/01/38 Ordination Date 05/30/64

Current Position Definition

Dept. Clergy Personnel Office Vicar for Clergy

- Not Assigned Personal Leave Sick Leave
 Awaiting Assignment Personal Study Leave Sabbatical
 Retired Graduate Studies Other: In Process Laicization

Wage and Benefit Information

Salary/Benefit	Amount	Terms*	Paying Unit**
Gross Compensation	<u>\$0</u>	-	-
Minimal or Modified Salary	<u>\$0</u>	-	-
Support	<u>\$10</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>Acct 46</u>
Medical Insurance	<u>BC-PPO</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>Acct 46</u>
Dental Insurance	<u>BC-BS</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>Acct 46</u>
Pension	<u>\$0</u>	-	-
Housing	<u>\$1240</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>Acct 46</u>
Food Allowance	-	-	-
Continuing Ed. Fee	-	-	-
Retreat	-	-	-
Retirement Supplement	-	-	-
Professional Expense <input type="checkbox"/>	-	-	-

* (M=monthly; Y=yearly) ** (e.g. Account #, SMPF, Self, Other)

Termination


- Quit/Resigned Discharged Laid Off Other Last Day Worked

Reason

Extension of health insurance benefits? (Y/N) to

Extension of dental insurance benefits? (Y/N) to

Approval



 Department Head/Supervisor

October 6, 2003
 Date

Chancery Finance-Insurance Payroll H.R.-Central Office
 Priest Pension Fund Finance-Payables Missions Priest Placement

September 18, 2003

Rev. John O'Brien

Eden WI 53019

Dear John,

It was good to speak with you on the phone earlier this week.

Enclosed please find the forms I spoke of for your application for disability retirement. Please complete yours and have your primary physician complete his as well.

Again, you can expect to receive the promised check for \$10,000 as soon as your letter has been sent to Rome, later this month or the first week of October.

Fraternally yours,

V. Rev. Joseph F. Hornacek
Vicar for Clergy

JFH/ks

**Archdiocese of Milwaukee
Clergy Personnel Action Notice**

Employee # 4264

Effective Date 7/1/03

Last Name O'Brien First Rev. John Middle A.
 Address [REDACTED] City Eden State WI Zip Code 53019
 Country _____ Phone Number [REDACTED]
 SS# [REDACTED] D.O.B. 11/01/38 Ordination Date 05/30/64

Current Position Definition

Dept. Clergy Personnel Office Vicar for Clergy

- Not Assigned Personal Leave Sick Leave
 Awaiting Assignment Personal Study Leave Sabbatical
 Retired Graduate Studies Other: Unassignable

Wage and Benefit Information

Salary/Benefit	Amount	Terms*	Paying Unit**
Gross Compensation	\$0	-	-
Minimal or Modified Salary	\$0	-	-
Support	\$10	<u>M</u>	<u>Acct 46</u>
Medical Insurance	<u>BC-PPO</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>Acct 46</u>
Dental Insurance	<u>BC-BS</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>Acct 46</u>
Pension	<u>\$998</u>	<u>Y</u>	<u>Acct 46</u>
Housing	<u>\$1240</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>Acct 46</u>
Food Allowance	-	-	-
Continuing Ed. Fee	-	-	-
Retreat	-	-	-
Retirement Supplement	-	-	-
Professional Expense <input type="checkbox"/>	-	-	-

* (M=monthly; Y=yearly) ** (e.g. Account #, SMPF, Self, Other)

Termination

- Quit/Resigned Discharged Laid Off Other Last Day Worked

Reason _____
 Extension of health insurance benefits? (Y/N) to _____
 Extension of dental insurance benefits? (Y/N) to _____

Approval



 Department Head/Supervisor

June 30, 2003
 Date

- Chancery Finance-Insurance Payroll H.R.-Central Office
 Priest Pension Fund Finance-Payables Missions Priest Placement

JUN 23 2003

Thursday June 12 2003

Dear Father Joe,

Referring to the offer of laicization as proposed
in your last letter I accept that proposal
and submit the request for laicization.

This has been an extremely sad and painful
decision and that has caused me much
delay.

Thanks again,

John A. Brien

ADOM045192

Subject: Presentation Parish

Date: Fri, 28 Jun 2002 10:36:07 -0500

From: [REDACTED]

Organization: [REDACTED]

To: "'hornacekj@archmil.org'" <hornacekj@archmil.org>

Dear Father Hornacek:

IM [REDACTED] the council chairman of Presentation Parish North Fond Du Lac WI.

I need to discuss some issues regarding Father O'Brien.

First: When you addressed our parish, you said that Father O'Brien would be writing a letter to our parish.

We believed that this would be some kind of explanation as to his sudden departure or a way to put closure to the issues at hand.

Many of our parishioners still pray for him and love him very much no matter what the circumstances. There has been an expressed desire by many to hear from Father O'Brien, to put worries to rest and have some closure.

Second: The Trustees and myself want to have the financial issues with Father O'Brien brought to a permanent closure as quickly as possible. To this date we have had no communication with anyone regarding this issue. The Trustees and myself have not discussed this issue with anyone publicly. It however has come to our attention that Father O'Brien may have written a letter to the Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus in Fond Du Lac, eluding to some of the issues that we are currently keeping confidential. We feel that we are deceiving our parishioners and feel that this is becoming a significant burden. We are also in the process of appointing a new Trustee. We do not want to place this burden on anymore people than necessary. If this issue were to become public we would be right in the center of it. Our parishioners trust us. They would feel let down and betrayed by their Chairman and Trustees if this were to come out. With the current publicity in the Catholic church and the heartbreak and hurt that out Parish has endured the past 2 years one more thing might just be too much.

I understand that you are going in next week for some surgery. If it is possible to touch base with me before that please do.

My work phone is: [REDACTED] I will not be at work the 1st. week in July otherwise IM there from 8:00 AM to 5:00PM

Work e-mail: [REDACTED]

Home phone: [REDACTED]

home e-mail [REDACTED]

I hope everything goes well for you next week.

Sincerely: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

THE SAINT LOUIS
CONSULTATION CENTER

AN INTENSIVE OUTPATIENT
TREATMENT PROGRAM

OCT 23 2000

St. Louis, MO 63117

October 19, 2000

Rev. Joseph Hornacek
3501 South Lake Drive
Milwaukee, WI 53207-0912

Dear Fr. Hornacek:

I am writing to confirm the admission of Rev. John A. O'Brien in the St. Louis Consultation Center Program for Clergy and Religious. Fr. O'Brien began the program on Thursday, October 19th, 2000.

The program consists of a set of coordinated therapeutic activities, including individual and group psychotherapy, spiritual direction, and psychoeducational workshops. During the course of the program, Fr. O'Brien will be seen by Sr. [REDACTED], CSJ, Psy.D., in individual psychotherapy; by Sr. [REDACTED], SSND, in spiritual direction; and by [REDACTED], MA, LPC and myself in group treatment.

As is our policy to work collaboratively with religious superiors, we invite your input into the treatment process. As Fr. O'Brien approaches the midway point in treatment, you will be receiving a report discussing his progress to date.

Thank you for the opportunity of working with Fr. John O'Brien. If we can provide any additional information or can be of further service, please do not hesitate to contact me at any time. We are appreciative of your support of our work with clergy and religious.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
Ph.D.,
Clinical Director

ADOM045322

Presentation Parish, North Fond du Lac
Friday, November 3, 2000

The "crisis intervention group" met this morning to ascertain what follow-up strategies might be needed in light of the sentencing hearing on Tuesday and to provide a "buffer" before Bill Kohler meets with the parish leadership on a pastor consultation. Diane Knight was asked to meet with the group in case Catholic Charities services are needed.

Updates:

So far, no one has heard back from the parish about any difficulties with the exception of Joe who was meeting with a trustee over some financial matters. Maureen had spoken with Sr. Deborah (FACES) and Tom Borek (Springs) and neither of them reported any difficulties. Liz reported that Molly Hatfield (Catholic Mutual) had recently received a report on the burglary and there was some suspicion about the timing of the report. It was suggested that Dave Lauer do a financial overview as soon as possible so the next pastor knows what to expect.

Issues Discussed:

We need to be prepared for any reaction that may come forward with the sentencing hearing. It could be a time that additional victims come forward, or people try to defend their pastor. Although the parish has not indicated any needs, they probably do have some concerns that they need to discuss. If nothing else, we should suggest a "healing service" to pray for the parish, the pastor, the victim and the community. At that time, we could have people present (our staff, Catholic Charities counselors) in case anyone needs to talk, either in group or one-on-one. People at the parish and schools also need to know what steps to take if any victims do come forward. Father O'Brien needs to be supported on the court date but Joe and Bill are both out of town. Father also needs to be "kept in check" when he returns from St. Louis for the hearing. It would not be helpful to have him seen locally. There will probably be a time lag between the sentencing and the permission to go out of state for treatment. It is presumed he will be in Eden during that time. The victim has not yet contacted us. It is not clear whether we should do any outreach to him.

Action Items:

Jerry Topczewski: Will prepare a statement for use after the sentencing hearing. It will include a carefully worded note about victim assistance.

Liz Piasecki: Will contact Matt Flynn regarding Jerry Boyle letting us know what the plea will be and notifying us of the sentence as soon as it is handed down. Will give victim assistance brochures to Maureen and Jerry.

Bill Kohler: Will discuss with Joe Hornacek who will be the "support" person at the courtroom on Tuesday. Possible Pat Heppe as dean could do this. Bill or Joe will contact this person and advise them that Father O'Brien should not be a visible presence in the

Fond du Lac area during the interim between sentencing and permission to be out of state.

Maureen Gallagher: Will contact Father Mateljan to get a sense of what assistance is needed. She will advise him of our suggestion about a healing prayer service and the availability of "listening sessions" for the people. She will send him and the principals the victim assistance brochures.

Barbara Anne Cusack: Will inform Wayne that Dave Lauer may need to conduct a financial review.

OCT 25 2000

October 24, 2000
Contact: Jerry Topczewski, 414-769-3517

Statement of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee

On September 27, 2000, the Archdiocese of Milwaukee confirmed the possibility of charges being filed against one of its priests, Fr. John O'Brien, pastor of Presentation Parish in North Fond du Lac, WI.

Immediately upon receiving this confirmation, archdiocesan officials met, based upon the values we hold as a Catholic community, to address the pending allegations and follow the procedures in place aimed at protecting the rights of all persons involved. Also at that time, Fr. O'Brien submitted his resignation and it was accepted.

Circumstances in which a priest is charged with any form of misconduct are taken very seriously by the Archdiocese. The Archdiocese has cooperated fully with authorities throughout this investigation and will continue to do so. For several years, the Archdiocese has had a protocol in place to deal with such unfortunate circumstances.

We ask prayers for everyone involved in this situation. No further comment from the Archdiocese is appropriate, pending resolution of the matter.

###

ARCHDIOCESE  OF MILWAUKEE
OFFICE OF THE AUXILIARY BISHOP

October 6, 2000

Presentation Parish
705 Michigan Avenue
North Fond du Lac, Wisconsin

Dear Parishioners:

It is with great regret that I inform you that we have recently become aware of one incident of misconduct against your pastor, Fr. John O'Brien.

In light of this incident and in order to protect the rights of all parties concerned, Fr. O'Brien has chosen to resign as pastor of your parish. This resignation was effective Monday, October 2, 2000.

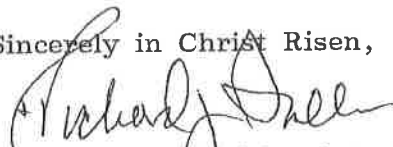
Since that time Fr. Joseph Hornacek has been appointed temporary administrator of your parish and will serve the parish's pastoral and administrative needs.

We are unable to offer more details at this time. However, I trust that the absence of information will not be filled with rumor or gossip unbecoming a Catholic community.

These are matters of great concern to all of us, and we join you in continued prayer for this parish and for all involved.

You have my promise that the Archdiocese will remain in communication with you and your parish leaders about the future pastoral leadership at Presentation Parish.

Sincerely in Christ Risen,



Most Reverend Richard J. Sklba
Auxiliary Bishop of Milwaukee

RJS/rt



September 27, 2000
Contact: Jerry Topczewski, 414-769-3517

Statement of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee

On September 27, 2000, the Archdiocese of Milwaukee confirmed the possibility of misconduct charges being filed against one of its priests, Fr. John O'Brien, pastor of Presentation Parish in North Fond du Lac, WI.

Immediately upon receiving this confirmation, archdiocesan officials met, based upon the values we hold as a Catholic community, to address the pending allegations.

Circumstances in which a priest is charged with any form of misconduct are taken very seriously by the Archdiocese. The Archdiocese has cooperated fully with authorities throughout this investigation and will continue to do so.

Although questions remain regarding the circumstances surrounding the allegations, for the benefit of all concerned, Fr. O'Brien felt it best to remove himself from ministerial service to the parish. Fr. O'Brien has submitted his resignation, to be effective October 2, 2000, and it has been accepted.

The Archdiocese does not want to interfere with a pending investigation. Since no formal charges have been filed, no other comment on the circumstances of this situation would be appropriate.

###

RESULTS OF CRISIS TEAM MEETING
September 27, 2000

Decision/Action	Time line	Person(s)
✓ 1. Contact JO'B requesting letter of resignation to be effective 10/2/00; inform him not to announce anything to the parish but to be sure his brother and family are informed	Call Thursday (9/28) Effective 10/2/00	Joe Hornacek
✓ 2. Contact Matt Flynn re. permission for JO'B to leave area for inpatient assessment	Friday (9/29)	Joe Hornacek
✓ 3. Contact parish leadership (trustees, council chair, staff [?]) to set up meeting	Call late Monday or Tuesday (10/2 or 3)	Maureen Gallagher
✓ 4. Contact Fr. Pat Heppe	Monday (10/2)	Joe Hornacek
✓ 5. Meet with parish leadership	Wednesday/Thursday (10/4 or 5)	Maureen Gallagher Pat Heppe
✓ 6. Contact Springs President	Friday (10/6)	Maureen Gallagher
✓ 7. Contact FACES principal	Friday (10/6)	Maureen Gallagher
✓ 8. Contact Fr. Mike Sturm to arrange for coverage of prison Masses	Tuesday (10/3)	Bill Kohler
✓ 9. Prepare statement	Friday (9/29)	Jerry Topczewski Jean Mullooly
✓ 10. Preside at Masses and make announcement to parish (if available – if not arrange for someone else) / be available after Masses for contact (?)	Saturday / Sunday (10/7 and 8)	Joe Hornacek Maureen Gallagher Shawn Colberg
11. Contact Fr. Kevin Wester (Eden)	Friday (10/6)	Bill Kohler
✓ 12. Assess need for intervention – parish or school	Week of 10/9	Maureen Gallagher in consultation w/ local personnel
13. Refer any possible victim to Liz upon on-site contacts	Anytime	Joe Hornacek, Maureen Gallagher

ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE

3501 S. Lake Drive • P.O. Box 07912 • Milwaukee, WI 53207-0912 • (414) 769-3300

Priests' Personnel Board
(414) 769-3458

March 10, 1989

The Reverend John A. O'Brien

██████████
Eden, Wisconsin 53019

6/100

Dear Father O'Brien,

I am writing in response to your recent request for an extension of your current position as Faculty Member at St. Mary Springs Academy in Fond du lac. As you know, your term is June 22, 1989. Following the recommendation of the Personnel Board and with the approval of Archbishop Weakland, we hereby extend your term for up to one year.

We hope this will afford you the opportunity to continue your priestly ministry, and we look forward to working with you in this endeavor. It is further hoped that you will seriously consider a possible move in the future.

Faternally,

Fr. Tom Trepanier
Executive Secretary
Priests' Personnel Board



ADOM045414



ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE
Priests' Personnel Board

May 21, 1986

3501 S. Lake Drive
P.O. Box 2018
Milwaukee
Wis. 53201
414/769-3300
Archbishop Cousins
Catholic Center

The Reverend John A. O'Brien ✓
Faculty
St. Mary's Springs Academy
Fond du Lac, Wisconsin 54935

Dear Father O'Brien,

Many thanks for the cooperation and patience you have shown the Board as it worked with you to evaluate your current term of office.

We are pleased to inform you that Archbishop Weakland concurs with our recommendation to extend your term of office at St. Mary's Springs Academy in Fond du Lac, for a period of up to three years. At that time, your term will be reviewed for possible extension.

It is our prayer that the Lord will continue to guide you in your priestly service.

Sincerely yours,

THE PRIESTS' PERSONNEL BOARD

Reverend Eugene C. Neuman
Executive Secretary

ADOM045415

June 16, 1971

C
O
P
Y

Reverend John A. O'Brien
St. Patrick Parish
[REDACTED]
Fond du Lac, Wisconsin 54935

Dear Father O'Brien,

Following the recommendation of the Personnel Board regarding your assignment, I herewith transfer you from your present position as temporary Associate Pastor at St. Patrick Parish, Fond du Lac, and appoint you to the Faculty of St. Mary's Springs High School, Fond du Lac, effective June 22, 1971. You will kindly report on that date to the Principal, Sister Mary Evangeline.

With the warmest of personal regards and wishing you God's choicest blessings, I am

Fraternally Yours in Christ,

Most Reverend William E. Cousins
Archbishop of Milwaukee

ADOM045424

536. John O'Brien
On September 1, 2000 I had an extended emergency meeting with Fr. John O'Brien who reported that a compromising situation had occurred with a possible minor at Presentation rectory which had recently evolved into some Police investigation and possible charge. Fr. O'Brien also stated that his lawyer, Attorney Gerald Boyle, will be meeting with civil officials to further explore options and that at the same time Fr. O'Brien will be taking a polygraph test in order to verify his testimony against that of the individual. I insisted on counseling as soon as possible, discussed the possibility of departure from Fond du Lac and discussed the matter with Fr. William Kohler in order to have Archdiocesan resources available in a prompt and opportune time. I asked Sr. Kathleen for the names of suitable counselors in the Fond du Lac area and made contact with Attorney Boyle's office that same afternoon.
- RJS
542. John O'Brien
On September 6, 2000, at the encouragement of the Archbishop, I telephoned Fond du Lac to learn that the proper jurisdiction was North Fond du Lac, whereupon I called North Fond du Lac Chief of Police, Lawrence Wodack (920-929-3760) to report that I had only learned of the matter on September 1, 2000 and was eager to make official contact in order to offer assurance of the Archdiocese's full cooperation without in any way impeding the investigation. At the suggestion of Chief Wodack I contacted with a similar message a special investigator Kim Scorlinski (920-832-2750) in order to convey the very same message, even though he was out of the office at the time.
- RJS
773. John O'Brien
September 6, 2000 John appreciates call of the Vicar to express concern. John will meet with his attorney, Gerald Boyle on 9/8 and then contact Vicar for meeting.
- JFH
804. John O'Brien
September 13, 2000 Vicar met at length with John O'Brien to obtain his detailed version of what took place between himself and the person making allegations. No police report has been given to O'Brien. Full name of alleged victim has been obtained. O'Brien has contacted psychotherapist for meeting this week. This info has been related to Liz Piasecki and Matt Flynn.
- JFH
589. John O'Brien
On September 27, 2000 Barbara Ann Cusack convened the Crisis Intervention Team of Frs. J.Hornacek and W.Kohler, J. Mullooly and J.Topczewski of Communications, M.Gallagher of Dept. for Parishes and Dr. Liz Piasecki in order to discuss prompt and responsible action on the part of the Diocese according to the appropriate protocols. A summary of the decisions and responsibilities will be circulated as soon as further information is available.
- RJS
860. John O'Brien
September 28, 2000 John O'Brien is phoned by Vicar and asked to write letter of resignation of pastorate of Presentation of the BVM Parish, North Fond du Lac, effective October 2nd. Hornacek will serve as TA until later in October and will take all Masses for October 7-8 weekend when statement of explanation for O'Brien's removal will be read. Fr. Timothy O'Brien, John's brother, is also informed and heartily supports a residential program of therapy for John.
- JFH

600. John O'Brien

On September 29, 2000 I concluded the process suggested by the Crisis Intervention Team, namely the formal appointment of Fr. Hornacek as Temporary Administrator of Presentation Parish in North Fond du Lac, and signed statement to be read at all Masses at the parish on the weekend of October 7-8, 2000.

On October 4, 2000 I received a copy of Fr. O'Brien's resignation from the pastorate effective Monday, October 2, 2000.

On October 6, 2000 I gave a courtesy call to Bishop Robert Banks because many of his parishes are so close to the North Fond du Lac community.

RJS

870. John O'Brien

October 2, 2000 John is contacted for listing of staff members at Presentation Parish and their phone numbers. He has obtained Roland Glass' help for some weekday Masses and will still contact Ed Sippel for the remaining 2 Masses. He is also faxed copy of letter to parish from Bishop Sklba so that he knows exactly what is being said. Staff and council names and phone numbers are given to Maureen Gallagher.

JFH

889. John O'Brien

October 4, 2000 John sends copy of his letter to Archbishop resigning the pastorate of Presentation Parish, N. Fond du Lac effective October 2, 2000.

JFH

901. John O'Brien

October 10, 2000 John is phoned and given report on Vicar's pastoring of Presentation Parish throughout this past weekend. O'Brien will phone Roy Mateljan for orientation meeting on 10/13 at Presentation. John states his brother heard the announcement of his resignation on a Fond du Lac radio station yesterday. John is also told Vicar is waiting for Jerry Boyle's permission for John to go to St. Louis Consultation Center of October 16th assessment.

JFH

908. John O'Brien

October 13, 2000 John is notified by Vicar that Attorney Boyle has approved John's move to St. Louis for the assessment October 16-19. John confirms he is meeting with Roy Mateljan to orient him to Presentation Parish and continues packing personal things at the rectory.

JFH

938. John O'Brien

October 20, 2000 Mr. Jerry Boyle informs Vicar that John O'Brien's court date is November 7th at 9:45 a.m. He will be charged with a misdemeanor. Jerry Boyle expects to care for the entire procedure in one court appearance, to allow O'Brien to return immediately to St. Louis Consultation Center.

JFH

950. John O'Brien

October 23, 2000 Dr. [REDACTED] writes to confirm admission of John O'Brien into the St. Louis Consultation Center Program for clergy on Thursday, October 19th, 2000. A progress report will be sent midway through the treatment program.

JFH

954. John O'Brien

October 24, 2000 Liz Piascecki notifies Vicar that the complaint against John O'Brien was filed in court today and calls are beginning to come in from the media. Vicar phones Roy Mateljan, TA at Presentation, to make him aware of this and to offer any needed assistance.

JFH

ADOM045447

663. John O'Brien

On November 8, 2000 I spoke with Dr. Liz Piasecki who reported that the article in the Fond du Lac paper which reported the trial of Fr. O'Brien included a statement from Attorney Gerald Boyle that Fr. O'Brien would be returning to the Fond du Lac area as soon as treatment has been concluded. I asked for a copy so that those preparing for the healing service at the parish the following week might be prepared to give a more accurate statement in behalf of the Archdiocese itself, and asked Dr. Piasecki to seek the full court records so that we would not have another repetition of the Wagner situation. I also authorized her to contact the Victim Assistance Office of Fond du Lac County in order to offer the assistance of the Archdiocese to Jason if judged helpful.

On November 9, 2000 I signed a letter to Presentation Parish drafted by Jerry Topczewski reporting the results of the trial and stating that the Archdiocese would begin a process of working with the parish to determine their next pastor since Fr. O'Brien would not be returning to Presentation Parish.

RJS

986. John O'Brien

November 12, 2000 John is phoned by Vicar in response to a voicemail message. John was pleased with his attorney Jerry Boyle's work in court for his hearing - sentencing on November 7th. He also appreciated the supportive presence of Fr. Pat Heppe. He met with his probation officer, Francisco Salas, and awaits his approval to return to St. Louis Consultation Center this week.

JFH

991. John O'Brien

November 13, 2000 John is phoned and told as of 11/1/00 he is on Administrative Leave and will receive no salary. He will be reimbursed for professional mileage and is asked to submit a monthly accounting of mileage traveled and receipts for any food for which he expects reimbursement. The diocese will cover his insurance and pension payment in addition to housing during his therapy. At 3:00 P.M, he still awaits word from his probation officer to return to St. Louis.

JFH

1031. John O'Brien

November 23, 2000 John is phoned. He is frustrated that his return to St. Louis has been delayed now for longer than 2 weeks. There are questions over whether Missouri will assume transferred responsibility for a misdemeanor given their load of felonies; and whether more supervision will be required of John through a residential program. Jerry Boyle is now scheduled to seek a court order from the Judge on Wednesday, 11/29 to send O'Brien back to St. Louis immediately. He will notify Vicar's office as soon as this is finalized.

JFH

1032. John O'Brien

November 30, 2000 In response to a request of Liz Piasecki, I called John O'Brien who is still in Eden. He said he has received no message from Jerry Boyle after the hearing. John intends to write to Joe Hornacek concerning financial matters as a result of being placed on Administrative Leave.

November 30, 2000 Liz Piasecki suggests the possibility of either Wounded Brothers in St. Louis (supervised living) or River Oaks in New Orleans if John O'Brien situation requires a move. Liz will confer with Joe Hornacek upon his return from vacation.

November 30, 2000 Helen, secretary at Presentation, North Fond du Lac, called to inquire what address to put in the parish bulletin for Fr. O'Brien for parishioners who wish to send Christmas cards to their former pastors. I advised her to make the address in care of me at the Cousins Center and I would forward his mail to him. Fr. O'Brien agreed that was best.

December 4, 2000 John O'Brien continues to wait in Eden.

KS

ADOM045448

729. John O'Brien

On December 14, 2000 I had an unusual request from the office of Wayne Schneider, who asked that I initial and authorize payment of the amount of \$1,571.10 as billed by Quarles and Brady for the legal services of Attorney Matthew Flynn in dealing with the John O'Brien case in North Fond du Lac, which I did.

RJS

1051. John O'Brien

December 14, 2000 John is still waiting for action on his return to St. Louis. His attorney returns today from a trip to Florida required by Boyle's brother's illness. He is attending a weekly support group counseling session set up for those convicted of sexual offenses. John calls on 12/15 with news he has been approved for immediate return to St. Louis - he will return on 12/18.

JFH

1084. John O'Brien

December 26, 2000 John is phoned in St. Louis and told of the Precept which has been placed upon him by the Archbishop. His residence remains the same. He did not return to Fond du Lac for Christmas because of his recent return to the program in St. Louis.

JFH

1095. John O'Brien

December 29, 2000 Vicar informs John O'Brien that as of November 15th when his regular salary amount was discontinued he would be receiving a monthly salary of \$1400 plus a monthly food allowance of \$600. We arrived at these figures after studying his itemized list of fixed monthly expenses and his food costs for November.

JFH

115. John O'Brien

February 6, 2001 John is phoned in St. Louis. He appreciates the program and on Tuesdays meets with his Probation Officer and a Probation Consultation group in the evening. He is told the Archdiocese is still awaiting the fulfillment of his promise to care for outstanding debts. He promises this will be cared for from his personal funds before end of February. He is warned that legal action may be taken by the Archdiocese if he defaults on his promise. He was in two auto accidents 2/4 when someone ran a red light and another person rammed the rear of his vehicle at a stop sign.

JFH

121. John O'Brien

February 7, 2001 Vicar called Paul Ruedinger, trustee of Presentation parish and asked him to send an itemized bill for personal phone calls to Fr. John O'Brien in St. Louis. He was also told that John has until end of February to repay all parish funds before the diocese initiates legal action.

JFH

181. John O'Brien

March 6, 2001 John phones from St. Louis to report additional financial woes as a result of not using prudential judgment. He was urged to contact his attorney regarding advice for pursuing a gentleman to whom he gave use of his car and credit card, and whose whereabouts are now unknown. He was asked to submit bills from Dr. [REDACTED] for a weekly 90 minute group therapy session required by St. Louis Probation Authority.

JFH

185. John O'Brien

March 6, 2001 Wayne Schneider reports that John O'Brien has called Molly Hatfield at our Diocesan Insurance Company to report the theft of several pieces of jewelry, glassware and Christmas ornaments valued at \$4000. This itemization and estimated value of articles is different from that which appears on the original police report. Wayne is also told that John O'Brien's money resources have dried up and we need research canon and civil law to determine how to proceed with the case of monies "borrowed" from the Presentation parish.

JFH

ADOM045449

276. John O'Brien
On May 2, 2001 in the context of a Confirmation at Good Shepherd Parish in Eden, Fr. Kevin Wester reported a long standing resistance/hostility on the part of the O'Brien family toward sibling Father John whose presence at weddings or funerals has been refused for mysterious reasons for several years. Fr. Kevin was instructed to welcome Fr. Tim O'Brien, but to state that Fr. John O'Brien could not concelebrate and was asked to sit in a pew if he chose to attend such events.

RJS

460. John O'Brien
June 11, 2001 John submits estimated tax info for the year 2000. JFH
522. John O'Brien
July 3, 2001 John O'Brien sent note with his June mileage stating he is now required to do a sexual history, which will be extra weekly mileage. He also states he made 2 trips to Eucharistic Congress which he found quite impressive. KS
534. John O'Brien
July 9, 2001 John O'Brien called and referred to a letter from Barbara Anne Cusack concerning his request for Mass Stipends. He said that Vicar verbally told him that after he completes his program in St. Louis, arrangements are to begin to repay his debts. However this was never put into writing. I suggested that he will have to live with Barbara Anne's response until August when Vicar returns from sabbatical-retreat. KS
542. John O'Brien
July 10, 2001 Barbara Anne Cusack sends copy of her letter of 7/2/01 to John O'Brien in which she explains that she is placing his request for additional Mass stipends on hold because she is unable to consult with Vicar while his is away for month of July and because of unresolved financial concerns regarding Presentation Parish, some questions apparently involving the Mass stipend account. KS
582. John O'Brien
July 20, 2001 Arrangements for John O'Brien's discharge conference at St. Louis Consultation Center has been made for meeting between Vicar and key personnel at 1PM on 8/20/01 in St. Louis. KS
596. John O'Brien
July 30, 2001 Copy of Bishop Sklba's 7/25/01 letter to John O'Brien is filed in which Bishop Sklba addresses the Mass stipend question and the need to wait for communication with Vicar. KS
608. John O'Brien
August 6, 2001 John O'Brien was phoned by Vicar to confirm that he would attend John's exit interview in St. Louis on August 20th 1:00 p.m. John agreed to pick up Hornacek at the airport that morning. John is reminded of the need to transfer his personal belongings from 2 rooms in Presentation Rectory as soon as possible after August 20th. His request for Mass stipends was put on hold by the Chancellor until conferral with the Vicar. His questions regarding future assignment and residence will be discussed after August 20th report. JFH
610. John O'Brien
August 7, 2001 Paul Ruedinger, trustee at Presentation Parish, North Fond du Lac, asks about John O'Brien's personal things still stored in the rectory. He is told that Fr. O'Brien was reminded of this yesterday in a phone conversation, and a determination will be made post exit interview on August 20th. JFH

ADOM045450

627. John O'Brien
August 20, 2001 Vicar meets with Dr. [REDACTED] Fr. John O'Brien and four additional therapists at the St. Louis Consultation Center for John's exit interview. A complete written report will be sent to the Archdiocese in a couple weeks. Briefly, John has done good work on such issues as emotional avoidance, personal family history, addressing personal needs and feelings, boundary issues, sexual identity, financial responsibility, spiritual growth needs, etc. He is not a predator and should be given an assignment, not as pastor or administrator, and not a position where he would be responsible for finances. He shall continue to see a therapist in Milwaukee, be subject to a monitoring program, and will work with a spiritual director and priests support group. He will return to Milwaukee first week of September.

JFH

667. John O'Brien
September 4, 2001 Vicar speaks to John O'Brien who returned to the Archdiocese this past weekend and is in residence at his brother Brian's farm in Eden. He is told a temporary assignment will be recommended in a couple weeks. Len Van Vlaenderen is informed that John will not need rooms at OLQP rectory.

JFH

694. John O'Brien
September 11, 2001 Vicar receives final report on John O'Brien from Dr. [REDACTED] of St. Louis Consultation Center.

JFH

705. John O'Brien
September 13, 2001 Francisco Salas is John O'Brien's probation officer in Fond du Lac. He advises John not return to parish ministry because 2 more alleged juvenile victims under 15 years of age 20 years ago were victims of O'Brien's sexual abuse. One gave statement directly to police; the other gave statement to Salas who gave it to police. Salas wishes to order a lie detector test for O'Brien for treatment rather than prosecution purposes.

JFH

706. John O'Brien
September 13, 2001 [REDACTED] treatment therapist who will work with John O'Brien on behalf of the state corrections system, identifies herself to Vicar at recommendation of Francisco Salas, O'Brien's probation officer.

JFH

711. John O'Brien
September 14, 2001 Vicar speaks with [REDACTED] Wisconsin Corrections Department appointed sex offender treatment therapist. John O'Brien, whom she knows from her days as a colleague with him at Springs, will attend a weekly group session she conducts for 15 sex offenders. She will send her vitae to Vicar's office. O'Brien is called and asked to write a letter to [REDACTED] giving her permission to share group progress notes with Vicar.

JFH

715. John O'Brien
September 18, 2001 Vicar phones John O'Brien to explain reasons for Francisco Salas' request for lie detector test and need for his giving [REDACTED] permission to share reports with Vicar from sex offender therapy group.

JFH

761. John O'Brien
September 29, 2001 Vicar learns from Brian O'Brien, brother of John and owner of the Eden farm where John is residing that John was hospitalized at St. Agnes, Fond du Lac on 9/27 for elevated blood sugar and signs of diabetes. He expects to be released on September 30th or October 1st. John wanted no one to know of this.
JFH
775. John O'Brien
October 10, 2001 John O'Brien called and indicated that he was hospitalized for 11 days with a virus which intensified and during this time learned that he has full blown diabetes.
KS
808. John O'Brien
November 6, 2001 John is called by Vicar for update. He takes 25 units of insulin in A.M. and 15 units in P.M. for diabetes which is still erratic. He's on a special protein diet and will see another physician tomorrow for possible stomach ulcer. A new probation officer was assigned and met with John at his house on October 25 and was pleased to learn he was seeing Dr. [REDACTED]. She also cancelled former probation officer's request that John take a lie detector test.
JFH
924. John O'Brien
December 27, 2001 John is phoned to inquire about his health and to make an appoint to receive a renewal of his precept. He lost the toe nail of his large toe - related to his diabetic condition. His feet are still sore and swell somewhat. He tolerates walking or standing for about a half-hour. He remains in weekly group therapy mandated by the State. He meets another new probation officer January 10th. (Vicar will meet with John on January 4th.)
JFH
8. John O'Brien
January 4, 2002 John O'Brien is seen by Vicar who delivers copy of renewed Precept together with letter from Archbishop asking for information relative to financial questions which arose during John's administration of Presentation Parish, N. Fond du Lac. John is informed he is not entitled to and will not receive the retirement supplement this year. If the Archbishop allows, John would be willing to offer Mass in nursing homes or prisons in the Fond du Lac area.
JFH
68. John O'Brien
January 18, 2002 John sends copy of his letter to Archbishop describing in part how he utilized the parish's discretionary funds for his own purposes and how he plans to retire that debt from his "full salary" which he currently does not receive. On 1/23/02 he writes Vicar of his plan to recover funds from a disability insurance company policy and gives permission to disclose salary information if asked by Standard Insurance Co. of Portland, Oregon.
JFH
195. John O'Brien
March 2, 2002 John returns Vicar's phone call and apologizes for accidentally erasing a former message left by the Vicar two weeks ago. Healthwise John's diabetes is stabilized through insulin; a recent colonoscopy was negative. He continues to meet regularly with Probation Officer Sue Shuanski and attends a weekly group session for sexual abusers. He remains on probation until May 2, 2002. He is told of the article that will appear in the Milwaukee Journal tomorrow re Archdiocese of Milwaukee's response to sexual abuse. John will meet with Brian Beno on March 5 to discuss options for help-out Masses in nursing homes.
JFH

John O'Brien

On March 18, 2002 I received a telephone call from someone in the Plymouth area who is outraged to learn that Fr. John O'Brien had celebrated the annual St. Patrick's Day Mass at the Inn in Plymouth with a marquee publicly announcing the fact. Although I was not able to find any trace of permission given by the Vicar, I indicated my personal surprise upon learning that he was seen vested for Mass, talking with people out on the sidewalk of the establishment on Sunday morning.

RJS

265. John O'Brien

April 3, 2002 John O'Brien was informed by Vicar that he will not be able to minister publicly, not even in a nursing home. Given the current climate in the Church, Vicar advises John will probably never return to any form of active priestly ministry. The precept has been renewed and will be sent to him. He is invited to be in contact with Vicar for future support as needed. He is also told of 3 mistakes in a recent Catholic Herald article which mentioned him by name.

JFH

271. John O'Brien

April 5, 2002 John O'Brien is the subject of concern expressed by [redacted] member of the faculty and campus minister at Marian College. She reports that John is seen frequenting the coffee shop on campus at least three times a week, reading the newspaper and watching campus traffic. Given the presence of 18-22 year old men she doesn't believe this is appropriate. She believes his parole officer was informed and concurred this was off limits for John but he returned to campus recently. Vicar will call coffee house manager for more info.

JFH

279. John O'Brien

On May 8, 2002 I discovered an inquiry from Agnesian Sister Joy Ann about the possibility of utilizing Fr. John O'Brien as a replacement while their Chaplain is undergoing knee surgery. After consultation with Sr. Kathleen I returned the call and reported that Fr. O'Brien had absolutely no faculties to do any public ministry whatever at this time.

RJS

421. John O'Brien

May 17, 2002 John O'Brien finally returns calls to Sr. Kathleen. He just returned from an 8-day trip to Ireland. He recently was removed from probation and his probation officer stated he was free to move about. He will attend session at Southdown for priests removed from active ministry who are in transition. He spoke of the need to find a job.

JFH

659. John O'Brien

July 18, 2002 I phoned John O'Brien to inform him of the '02-'03 approved compensation in his case. He said he is experiencing some eye problems related to the diabetes. He talked a bit about his experience at the workshop in Toronto recently. He was counseled that, due to several things against him: age (nearing 65), past conviction (needed to be stated on an employment application), health (cannot stand for long periods of time), his employability is minimal unless he had a friend who is willing to hire him. I suggested that he write to the Vicar to update him directly after that workshop.

KS

503. John O'Brien

On July 20, 2002 at the request of Barbara Ann Cusack, I signed a renewed ministerial restriction precept for Fr. John O'Brien to be in place, pending revocation.

RJS

765. John O'Brien
August 16, 2002 John O'Brien is the subject of concern expressed by [REDACTED] Chairperson of Parish Council at Presentation Parish, North Fond du Lac. He hopes for some resolution to the indebtedness John O'Brien has incurred with the parish before several "new" persons - trustee or Council Chair needs to be made aware of this. Vicar suggests meeting with John O'Brien to discuss the available options. Some parishioners still await his promise of a letter to the parish. JFH

799. John O'Brien
August 28, 2002 John O'Brien is reminded he needs to meet with Vicar and [REDACTED] parish council chair to report how he will make restitution to Presentation Parish for funds owed. He had planned to do this once he returned to full salary; this will not happen now. He is willing to meet and Vicar suggests early October to accommodate his recovery schedule. [REDACTED] is notified. JFH

✓672. John O'Brien
On September 12, 2002 I received a phone call from Fr. Roger Savage inquiring about whether Fr. O'Brien should be invited to the 100th Anniversary Celebration of Presentation Parish in November, 2002. I responded with an absolute negative, in view of the fact that Fr. O'Brien has no faculties for public ministry of any kind, and certainly not at the parish of the offense.

RJS

961. John O'Brien
October 17, 2002 John O'Brien responds to Vicar's request for meeting to discuss his plan to repay funds borrowed from Presentation Parish. He suggests meeting after 10/27/02 when he expects to have received funds and/or strategy plan for repayment from a friend meeting next week in Europe for this purpose. JFH

1008. John O'Brien
November 12, 2002 John O'Brien met with Vicar, [REDACTED] who are the current council chair and trustee respectively of Presentation Parish, N. Fond du Lac. Vicar will have a legal document/promissory note drawn up to be signed by O'Brien and reps of the parish and archdiocese that would hold O'Brien accountable for payment of \$35,39671 to the parish by 5/1/03 or in monthly installments thereafter of what remains to be paid. JFH


ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE
DEPARTMENT FOR CLERGY

August 9, 2002

Rev John O'Brien
[REDACTED]
Eden WI 53019

Dear John,

Please accept my sincere apology for being unable to send the enclosed renewal of your Precept until now. You will notice that all the restrictions delineated in the previous precept continue. The chief difference is found in the final paragraph which now reads that "these restrictions are seen as necessary and prudent precautions and will remain in effect from this date until notice of their revocation."

In other words, previous precepts were typically drawn up for a three-month period. This precept remains in effect until further notice. I appreciate that this may be a cause of additional disappointment and profound sadness. As your brother priest I truly share that sadness, and pray that your remembrance of many years of faithful and generous priestly service offered out of love for God's people, will remain some consolation to you.

Meanwhile I ask you to be well, to take care of your various needs to the best of your ability with the resources available to you. I want to continue to be of support to you however I am able. If a personal visit or invitation to a meal would be welcome to you please do not hesitate to contact me.

With prayerful concern, I am

Fraternally yours,



V. Rev. Joseph F. Hornacek
Vicar for Clergy

JFH/ks

How's your physical health holding out, John?

KETTLE MORaine CORRENTIONAL INSTITUTE

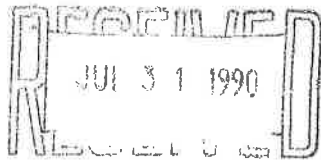
3/21/90 - C. Krenke is called regarding the lack of any position for a Catholic Chaplain. She states that Madison is responsible for the position being listed as an ecumenical position and that she has little control over that. She is then asked why J. O'Brien was told to take the civil service exam for the position if it was not open listed. She states that this was done as a personal favor. (Something about all this does not click).

5/30/90 - John O'Brien calls to say he has passed the civil service exam for the chaplaincy at Kettle Moraine. With 27 applications he is the number one candidate.

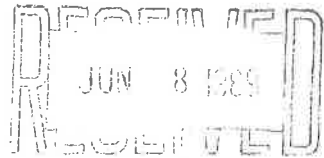
6/4/90 - J. O'Brien calls to ask that the Board make a recommendation about his application for chaplain to Kettle Moraine.

6/6/90 - J. O'Brien calls for the wisdom of the Board. He is told that R. Sklba has a letter in the mail responding to John's request for Kettle Moraine. He is also asked to contact D. Van Beek regarding a possible change in the future.

6/8/90 - R. Sklba writes to J. O'Brien affirming his selection as the candidate for the chaplaincy at Kettle Moraine. John is asked to hold off until RJS has a chance to clarify some issues around chaplain placement in the State institutions.



ADOM045491



June 7, 1989

ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE
The Chancery

The Reverend John A. O'Brien
St. Mary's Springs High School
Fond du Lac, WI 54935

Dear Father O'Brien:

Following the recommendation of the Priests' Personnel Board and in accord with Canons 539-540 of the 1983 Code, you have been appointed temporary administrator of St. Cloud Parish, St. Cloud, until a new passtor is appointed. This appointment is effective immediately.

As temporary administrator you come under the provisions of Canon 540 which is quoted here in full:

- §1 The parochial administrator is bound by the same obligations and has the same rights of the pastor, unless the diocesan Bishop prescribes otherwise [cf. cc. 519; 528-530; 535].
- §2 The parochial administrator may not do anything which could prejudice the rights of the pastor or could do harm to parochial property.
- §3 When he has discharged his office, the parochial administrator is to give an account to the pastor.

Note that you have the responsibility for the Pro Populo Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation [c. 534]; you are authorized to sign checks on all parish accounts to cover ordinary expenditures and to meet payroll obligations. Please note that in keeping with Canon 540, §2, no extraordinary changes are to be made. Urgent matters should be referred to the Archbishop.

Thanks, John, for assuming this assignment. Your willingness to do this is greatly appreciated.

Fraternally in Christ,

(Rev.) Ralph C. Gross
Chancellor and Vicar General
By special delegation

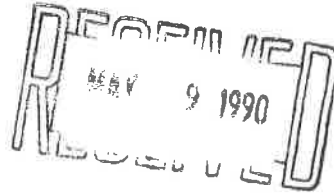
RCG/mk

cc: Rev. Thomas A. Trepanier, Priests' Personnel Board
Most Rev. Leo J. Brust, Co-Vicar for Clergy Personnel
Most Rev. Richard J. Sklba, Co-Vicar for Clergy Personnel

ADOM045493

3501 S. Lake Drive
P.O. Box 2018
Milwaukee
Wis. 53201
414/769-3300
Archbishop Cousins
Catholic Center

ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE
The Chancery



May 8, 1990

The Reverend John A. O'Brien
St. Mary's Springs High School
[REDACTED]
Fond du Lac, WI 54935-8606

Dear Father O'Brien:

Following the recommendation of the Priests' Personnel Board and in accord with Canons 539-540 of the 1983 Code, you have been appointed temporary administrator of Immaculate Conception Parish, Sheboygan. This appointment is effective May 8, 1990.

As temporary administrator you come under the provisions of Canon 540 which is quoted here in full:

- §1 The parochial administrator is bound by the same obligations and has the same rights of the pastor, unless the diocesan Bishop prescribes otherwise [cf. cc. 519; 528-530; 535].
- §2 The parochial administrator may not do anything which could prejudice the rights of the pastor or could do harm to parochial property.
- §3 When he has discharged his office, the parochial administrator is to give an account to the pastor.

Note that you have the responsibility for the Pro Populo Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation [c. 534]; you are authorized to sign checks on all parish accounts to cover ordinary expenditures and to meet payroll obligations. Please note that in keeping with Canon 540, §2, no extraordinary changes are to be made. Urgent matters should be referred to the Archbishop.

Thanks, John, for assuming this assignment in addition to your other duties. Your willingness to do this is greatly appreciated.

Fraternally in Christ,

(Rev.) Ralph C. Gross
Chancellor and Vicar General
By special delegation

RCG/mk

cc: Rev. Thomas A. Trepanier, Priests' Personnel Board
Most Rev. Leo J. Brust, Co-Vicar for Clergy Personnel
Most Rev. Richard J. Sklba, Co-Vicar for Clergy Personnel

*I think you'll
love it at IC.
Good luck.*

ADOM045494

3501 S. Lake Drive
P.O. Box 2018
Milwaukee
Wis. 53201
414/769-3300
Archbishop Cousins
Catholic Center

ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE

3501 SOUTH LAKE DRIVE • P.O. Box 07912 • MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN 53207-0912 • PHONE 414/769-3300

OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP



September 7, 1990

Rev. John A. O'Brien
St. Mary's Springs Academy
[REDACTED]
Fond du Lac, WI 54935

Dear Father O'Brien,

It is with a sense of joy in our shared faith that I ask you to become the Pastor at Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in North Fond du Lac. Following the recommendation of the Personnel Board, I am happy to entrust the faithful of that parish to your pastoral care beginning on September 25, 1990. This appointment is being made for a period of time up to six years, after which time your term will be reviewed for possible extension.

As the Pastor in that parish, you are called upon to serve the needs of God's people so that they can take their rightful place as baptized Catholics in their own Faith-community and in society. Your mission, like my own, is one of teaching and sanctifying, and also of administrating the parish, together with the Parish Council and those organizations designated to work with you. Also, I trust that you will work diligently with the priests in your district and enter fully into the current Archdiocesan Parish Planning, "Walking Together: Collaborating for the Future".

It is a privilege to share my ministry with you. May God's blessings fill your life.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

Most Reverend Rembert G. Weakland, O.S.B.
Archbishop of Milwaukee

ADOM045503

ARCHDIOCESE  OF MILWAUKEE
OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

October 18, 2000

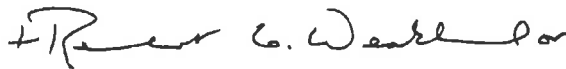
Reverend John O'Brien
Church of the Presentation
[REDACTED]
North Fond du Lac WI 54937

Dear John,

Just a quick note to your own of September 29, 2000, to accept formally your resignation as Pastor of Presentation Parish. Thanks for the good work done there through the years.

Know you are constantly in my prayers.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,



Most Reverend Rembert G. Weakland, O.S.B.
Archbishop of Milwaukee

CC: Bishop Richard J. Skiba
Vicar for Clergy Personnel
Priest Placement Board
Chancery

ARCHDIOCESE  OF MILWAUKEE
DEPARTMENT FOR CLERGY

FILE COPY

January 29, 2001

Rev. John A. O'Brien

████████████████████
St. Louis MO 63103

Dear Father,

I am writing at your request and for your probation officer's information to verify the compensation you have received since November 1, 2000 and the amounts you can expect to receive for the balance of this fiscal year, through June 30, 2001.

The enclosed Check/Direct Deposit Register indicates the details to date. The corrections written in red are Ellen's markings related to the Priest Pension deductions. The combination of your situations during that time, the agreement in January to retro-pay you, and the annual Retirement Supplement included in January's compensation has resulted in the fluctuations in the semi-monthly amounts of the compensation we have paid you thus far.

Beginning in February and through the end of June, unless there are any unforeseen circumstances, you should expect semi-monthly and by way of direct deposit an amount of \$1000 less your pension contribution of \$39.17.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,



V. Rev. Joseph F. Hornacek
Vicar for Clergy

JFH/ks

May 9, 2001

██████████ Ph.D.
St. Louis Consultation Center
██████████
St. Louis, MO 63117

Dear Dr. ██████████

With this brief letter I would like to gratefully acknowledge receipt of your interim report dated April 11, 2001 which arrived in my office on April 23rd, regarding the participation of Fr. John O'Brien in the Intensive Treatment Program of the St. Louis Consultation Center. I understand that Fr. O'Brien has also seen this report. Please know that I have shared the report with Archbishop Rembert Weakland and Bishop Richard Sklba. I further understand that these materials are to be destroyed after their use and not to be made a part of Fr. O'Brien's permanent record.

It was helpful to note the several focal points to date around which Fr. O'Brien's treatment process has revolved. Issues that I would also hold up for continued review would include Fr. O'Brien's relationship to his family. It seems to me that members of his family have been somewhat distant from him since his arrest and conviction, and entrance into the treatment program at the Consultation Center. Secondly, I expect that his responsibility for the considerable monies which he took from the parish accounts for his own personal use is also being explored.

I understand that as treatment nears its end I shall be contacted for an invitation to participate in the discharge conference. In the name of Archbishop Weakland, I express sincere appreciation to you and to your staff for the professionalism and compassion you bring to this important work with Fr. John O'Brien.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

V. Rev. Joseph F. Hornacek
Vicar for Clergy

JFH/ks

April 5, 2002

Rev. John A. O'Brien
[REDACTED]
Eden, WI 53019

Dear John,

I appreciated the opportunity to chat with you by phone a couple of days ago, and to offer support to you in this particular time of the Church's climate of struggle and turmoil. I urge you to continue to take good care of yourself by attending the weekly support group that has been required of you by the Wisconsin Department of Corrections. Also, please take advantage of the opportunity to meet with Dr. [REDACTED] psychologist, as you prayerfully discern your future.

Enclosed, please find a copy of the Precept which I indicated would be mailed to you. Feel free to call at any time to discuss any part of that. You are reminded that you are not to engage in any kind of public ministry. Enclosed you will also find a copy of a brochure which I just received from Southdown Institute concerning a workshop on "Transition and Renewal in the Midst of Crisis." Because it seems clear that the Church will not permit you to return to any form of active ministry, you may wish to use this workshop in order to discern future career possibilities.

Again, I remain available to be of prayerful support and assistance to you in every possible way. Please do not hesitate to be in contact as you see fit.

Fraternally Yours in the Lord,

V. Rev. Joseph F. Hornacek
Vicar for Clergy

JFH/ks

April 12, 2002

Rev. John A. O'Brien
[REDACTED]
Eden, WI 53019

Dear John,

I truly appreciated the opportunity to converse with you by phone several days ago, and to check on how you are doing with the recent flood of media attention to the clergy sexual abuse situation.

The enclosed Precept indicates that you are to cease from all public ministry including the celebration of Eucharist, and this is a significant change from what had been hoped for in terms of some public ministry in Nursing Homes.

Given today's climate in the Church I am not optimistic about your ability to ever return to public ministry. I realize that this information is somewhat shocking in its nature. You have probably wanted to do nothing other than serve the Church to the best of your ability as an ordained priest throughout your life. At your age I am not sure that you would consider the feasibility of a different career, or even the possibility of seeking laicization. I have taken this opportunity to enclose a brochure regarding a special workshop that is being offered at the Southdown Institute for those who are experiencing "transition and renewal in the midst of crisis". You will note that this workshop is taking place from June 9-16, 2002, and might be of some assistance to you.

Please know that I will be out of my office from April 13-18, 2002 attending the National Federation of Priests Councils Conference in Toronto. You certainly remain in my thoughts and prayers during this time of turmoil, and as you adjust to these latest restrictions of your public ministry. Please be in touch if I can be of any assistance to you in the future.

Fraternally Yours in the Lord,

V. Rev. Joseph F. Hornacek
Vicar for Clergy

JFH/ks

**Archdiocese of Milwaukee
Clergy Personnel Action Notice**

Employee # 4264

Effective Date 4/1/02

Last Name O'Brien First Rev. John Middle A.



Current Position Definition

Dept. Clergy Personnel Office Vicar for Clergy

- Not Assigned Personal Leave Sick Leave
 Awaiting Assignment Personal Study Leave Sabbatical
 Retired Graduate Studies Other:

Wage and Benefit Information

Salary/Benefit	Amount	Terms*	Paying Unit**
Gross Compensation	\$0	-	-
Minimal Salary	\$25,113	Y	Acct 46
Medical Insurance	BCBS PPO	Y	Acct 46
Dental Insurance	BC/BS Dental	Y	Acct 46
Pension	\$975	Y	deduct
Housing	\$300	M	Acct 46
Food Allowance	\$400	M	Acct 46
Continuing Ed. Fee	-	-	-
Retreat	-	-	-
Retirement Supplement	-	-	-
Professional Expense <input type="checkbox"/>	-	-	-

* (M=monthly; Y=yearly) ** (e.g. Account #, SMPF, Self, Other)

Termination

- Quit/Resigned Discharged Laid Off Other Last Day Worked
Reason
Extension of health insurance benefits? (Y/N) to
Extension of dental insurance benefits? (Y/N) to

Approval

Department Head/Supervisor

March 28, 2002
Date

- Chancery Finance-Dan Payroll Human Resource
Priest Pension Fund Finance-Mert Mission Office Priest Placement

AGREEMENT AND MUTUAL RELEASE

This Agreement and Mutual Release (hereafter "Agreement") is made by and between [REDACTED] (hereafter [REDACTED]) and the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Milwaukee, and all of its affiliated entities, schools, and parishes (hereafter "Archdiocese").

[REDACTED] has brought to the attention of the Archdiocese that he was sexually abused by John O'Brien (hereafter "O'Brien"), a priest of the Archdiocese, when [REDACTED] was a minor.

[REDACTED] and the Archdiocese entered into mediation to achieve reconciliation and restoration, to help repair the harm to [REDACTED] to address issues of concern to [REDACTED] about prevention of sexual abuse of minors in the future and reformation of Church practices in this regard, and to otherwise resolve and settle all disputes between them.

Accordingly, the parties to this Agreement wish to resolve and satisfy all claims of any nature that [REDACTED] has against the Archdiocese, and all of the Archdiocese's employees, agents, officers, directors, affiliates, insurers, and assigns, including, without limitation, all members of the Roman Catholic clergy and all parishes, schools, and religious orders, and any person or entity affiliated with the Roman Catholic Church in the territory of the Archdiocese, arising from the sexual abuse of [REDACTED] by O'Brien without the necessity of further proceedings or expense of any nature, and all parties wish to generally release one another from all liability for any claims that may exist to the date of the signing of this Agreement, including, but not limited to, any claims for sexual abuse of [REDACTED] by O'Brien.

So, in consideration of the mutual promises made here, and other valuable consideration, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, the parties to this Agreement agree as follows:

1. The Archdiocese agrees to provide [REDACTED] with \$50,000. These funds shall be used at [REDACTED] own discretion.
2. The Archdiocese further agrees to pay [REDACTED] \$14,000 per year for three years in consideration of the special employment and other disabilities he attributes to the abuse by O'Brien.

The first such payment shall be made by January 1, 2006 and continue each January 1 until the year 2008 at which time any and all payments under this provision shall cease.

3. The Archdiocese agrees to provide payment for the professional services of counselors, psychologists, psychiatrists and/or other mental health providers as deemed necessary and appropriate by [REDACTED] and his counselors. The Archdiocese shall make payments to counselors for reasonable costs, billed at the counselors' usual and customary rate. Notwithstanding any other provision in this Agreement, the Archdiocese's therapy payments owed under this provision shall be based upon treatment plans submitted by counselors. This payment and reimbursement is limited to medication and therapy expenses relating to injuries suffered as a result of the sexual abuse of [REDACTED] by O'Brien.

4. [REDACTED] and the Archdiocese will each bear their own costs and any attorney's fees associated with the Agreement, and there will be no payment to [REDACTED] other than that specifically enumerated above.

5. In return for the payment set out above, and for the mutual promises contained herein, [REDACTED] releases and forever discharges the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Milwaukee, and all of the Archdiocese's employees, agents, officers, directors, affiliates, insurers, and assigns, including, without limitation, all members of the Roman Catholic clergy, and all parishes, schools, and religious orders and any person or entity affiliated with the Roman Catholic Church in the territory of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee from, and covenants not to sue them for, all claims, causes of action, charges, and demands, whether in tort, contract, or otherwise, of any nature that he may have had at any time up to and including the date of signing of this Agreement, including, without limitation, any claim of any nature arising from the assault, injury, whether physical or mental, or any other activity by O'Brien.

6. The Archdiocese hereby releases and forever discharges [REDACTED] from all claims, demands, and causes of action of any nature that were in existence up to and including the date of the signing of this Agreement.

7. This Agreement supersedes all prior understandings and agreements between the parties, and constitutes the full agreement of the parties. No change to this Agreement shall be enforced against any party unless it is in writing signed by both parties.

8. The undersigned represent and warrant that each has read the foregoing Agreement; had an opportunity to discuss it with a lawyer; and fully understands its terms; voluntarily, freely, and without coercion signs the Agreement; and that Dr. Barbara Anne Cusack is an authorized representative of the Archdiocese and is duly authorized to execute this Agreement and Mutual Release.



8/12/2005
Date

Archdiocese of Milwaukee
by: Dr. Barbara Anne Cusack

8-17-05
Date

AGREEMENT AND MUTUAL RELEASE

This Agreement and Mutual Release (hereafter "Agreement") is made by and between [REDACTED] (hereafter [REDACTED]) and the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Milwaukee, and all of its affiliated entities, schools, and parishes (hereafter "Archdiocese").

[REDACTED] has advised the Archdiocese that he was sexually abused by Reverend John O' Brien (hereafter "O'Brien"), a priest of the Archdiocese, when [REDACTED] was a minor.

[REDACTED] and the Archdiocese entered into mediation to achieve reconciliation and restoration, to address issues of concern to both sides, to further prevent sexual abuse of minors and to enhance Church practices in this regard, and to otherwise resolve and settle all disputes between them.

Accordingly, the parties to this Agreement wish to resolve and satisfy all claims of any nature that [REDACTED] has against the Archdiocese, and all of the Archdiocese's employees, agents, insurers, officers, directors, affiliates, and assigns, including, without limitation, all members of the Roman Catholic clergy and all parishes, schools, and any person or entity affiliated with the Archdiocese, arising from the sexual abuse of [REDACTED] by O'Brien without the necessity of further proceedings or expense of any nature, and all parties wish to generally release one another from all liability for any claims that may exist to the date of the signing of this Agreement, including, but not limited to, any claims for sexual abuse of [REDACTED] by O'Brien.

So, in consideration of the mutual promises made here, and other valuable consideration, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, the parties to this Agreement agree as follows:

1. The Archdiocese agrees to provide \$30,000 from a trust account to the child support account for [REDACTED]'s outstanding child support payments.

2. The Archdiocese agrees to set up a fund from which [REDACTED] may draw an annual amount for payment of therapy bills, co-pays, additional child support payments or other needs as they may arise. The first payment from this account will be in the amount of \$10,000 and will be provided to [REDACTED] within thirty (30) days of receipt by the Archdiocese of a signed copy of this agreement. Thereafter, within thirty (30) days of the anniversary of the signing of this agreement, the Archdiocese will provide [REDACTED] with a sum of \$5,000 each year for three years. All obligations under this provision shall end with the third payment of \$5,000. The total amount to be paid under this provision is \$25,000.

3. [REDACTED] and the Archdiocese will each bear their own costs and any attorney's fees associated with the settlement, and there will be no payment from the Archdiocese to [REDACTED] other than that specifically enumerated in these paragraphs.

4. In return for the payments set out above, and for the mutual promises contained herein, [REDACTED] agrees to release and forever discharge the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Milwaukee, and all of the Archdiocese's employees, agents, officers, directors, affiliates, and assigns, including, without limitation, all members of the Roman Catholic clergy, and all parishes, schools, and religious orders and any person or entity affiliated with the Roman Catholic Church in the territory of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee from, and covenants not to sue them for, all claims, causes of action, charges, and demands, whether in tort, contract, or otherwise, of any nature that he may have had at any time up to and including the date of signing of this Settlement Agreement, including, without limitation, any claim of any nature arising from the assault, injury, whether physical or mental, or any other activity by O'Brien

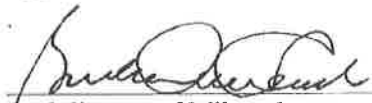
5. The Archdiocese hereby releases and forever discharges [REDACTED] from all claims, demands, and causes of action of any nature that were in existence up to and including the date of the signing of this Agreement.

6. This Agreement supersedes all prior understandings and agreements between the parties, and constitutes the full agreement of the parties. No change to this Agreement shall be enforced against any party unless it is in writing signed by both parties. The Archdiocese shall continue rendering and fulfilling the terms of this Agreement when successors assume offices currently held by archdiocesan officials.

7. The undersigned represent and warrant that each has read the foregoing Agreement; had an opportunity to discuss it with a lawyer; and fully understands its terms; voluntarily, freely, and without coercion signs the Agreement; and that Dr. Barbara Anne Cusack is an authorized representative of the Archdiocese and is duly authorized to execute this Agreement and Mutual Release.

[REDACTED]

10/29/05
Date


Archdiocese of Milwaukee
by: Dr. Barbara Anne Cusack

11-8-05
Date

June 16, 2004

Mr. E. Michael McCann
District Attorney
821 West State Street
Milwaukee, WI 53233

Dear Mr. McCann,

Enclosed is an intake report alleging abuse by the Father John O'Brien. Father was convicted of a similar offense and given probation. He is fully restricted from any ministry and may not present himself publicly by garb or title as a priest. His case has been presented to the Vatican for laicization.

Thank you for your assessment of this situation.

Sincerely yours,

Barbara Anne Cusack
Chancellor

7/24/04 - No response
yet
Need [redacted] to file at
Vatican.

ADOM057437