

April 22, 2002

To: Fr. Joe Hornacek and Bishop Sklba
From: Barb Reinke

Today I received a call from a man who wished not to identify himself. He indicated that he was sexually abused by Fr. Jerome Lanser over thirty years ago, which he has never reported to Project Benjamin. He is aware that others brought forth allegations against Fr. Lanser, and I confirmed that Fr. Lanser is now retired with full restrictions.

████████████████████, and it was very upsetting to him that the first person he saw ██████████ was Fr. Lanser. The family has had no contact with Fr. Lanser for over 30 years, though his brother may also have been victimized by Fr. Lanser.

I told this man we would talk with Fr. Lanser and make it clear to him that it is inappropriate for him to have contact with his victims or their families.

This is the type of situation that is coming back to bite us with some frequency. Several victims, who were previously willing to let things rest, have contacted us recently because of unwanted proximity to the offender that stirred them up.

ADOM017203

June 11, 1958

The Rev. Jerome E. Lanser
Belgium,
Wisconsin

Dear Father Lanser:

This letter is to inform you that you are herewith appointed assistant at St. Peter's Parish, Beaver Dam, effective Friday, June 20th, 1958.

You will kindly report on that date to the Pastor, Father Miller.

Under separate cover you have already received 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. Wishing you every blessing of God in your priestly work, I remain

Very sincerely yours in Christ,

The Most Reverend Albert G. Meyer
Archbishop of Milwaukee

COPY

ADOM017217

June 24, 1959

Mrs. A. F. Horkheimer, Regent
212 Center Street
Randolph, Wisconsin

Dear Mrs. Horkheimer:

The Archbishop herewith grants Father Jerome Lanser as Chaplain of the Holy Trinity Circle No. 156, Daughters of Isabella, Beaver Dam, providing that he is able to assume this responsibility in addition to his present assignment and providing that his Pastor is in accord with this appointment.

With kind personal regards and good wishes, I remain

Sincerely in Christ,

V. Rev. Msgr. Francis M. Beres,
Vice-Chancellor

FMB:gw

COPY

ADOM017221

February 13, 1964

The Reverend Jerome Lanser

Beaver Dam, Wisconsin 53916

Dear Father Lanser:

At the recommendation of Father James Doheny and because I am aware of your interest in Vocations, I am appointing you as a District Director for your Program. I am confident that your zeal and dedication will find modes of expression that will be of great help in this very important field.

You are asked to attend a meeting to be held in the basement hall of the Cathedral Rectory at 2:00 on the afternoon of Wednesday, February 19th. At this time your duties will be more clearly defined.

Looking forward to the privilege of greeting you personally at this meeting, I am

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend William E. Cousins
Archbishop of Milwaukee

COPY

ADOM017224

June 22, 1964

The Reverend Jerome E. Lanser

Beaver Dam, Wisconsin 53916

Dear Father Lanser:

By this letter I herewith transfer you from your position as curate at St. Peter Parish, Beaver Dam, and appoint you curate at St. Mary Parish, Menomonee Falls, effective Wednesday, July 1st. You will kindly report on that date to the pastor, Father Eschweiler.

With the warmest of personal regards and wishing you God's choicest blessing in your new field of endeavor, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend William E. Cousins
Archbishop of Milwaukee

COPY

ADOM017225

January 18, 1965

The Reverend Jerome E. Lmsar
St. Mary's Parish

Manomonee Falls, Wisconsin 53150

Dear Father Lmsar:

At the recommendation of Father Joseph Konkell and because I am aware of your interest in the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, I am appointing you as Moderator for District 9 - Waukesha County. I am confident that your zeal and dedication will find modes of expression that will be of great help in this very important field.

Please inform Father Konkell of this assignment and accept from him recommendations as to the duties you will assume.

With every good wish and blessing, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend William E. Cousins
Archbishop of Milwaukee

CC: Father Konkell

COPY

January 25, 1965

The Reverend Jerome Lenser
St. Mary's Parish

Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin

Dear Father Lenser:

At the recommendation of Father James Doheny and because I am aware of your interest in vocations, I am appointing you as Director of District 9-A for our Program. I am confident that your zeal and dedication will find modes of expression that will be of great help in this very important field.

Your work will not be unduly heavy and your zeal will avoid its conflicting with parish duties. Father Doheny will outline your task.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend William E. Cousins
Archbishop of Milwaukee

COPY

ADOM017227

March 7, 1969

The Reverend Jerome E. Lanser
Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin 53051

Dear Father Lanser:

Your interest in our Catholic Family Life Program has prompted Father Donald Weber's recommendation that you be officially assigned to the Program's Staff of Speakers. I am in hearty accord, confident that you will be an asset in the promotion of worthy ideals in family relations.

Please accept this letter as one of appointment and as an expression of my prayerful appreciation for your expressed willingness to serve in the above-mentioned capacity.

With the warmest of personal regards, I am

Fraternally yours in Christ,

Most Reverend William E. Cousins
Archbishop of Milwaukee

COPY

ADOM017228

May 23, 1969

Reverend Jerome E. Lanser
St. Mary Parish

Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin 53051

Dear Father Lanser:

Following the recommendation of the Personnel Board regarding your assignment, I herewith transfer you from your present position as Associate Pastor at St. Mary Parish, Menomonee Falls and appoint you Associate Pastor at St. Margaret Mary Parish, Milwaukee, effective June 17, 1969. You will kindly report on that date to the Pastor, Father Raymond Vint.

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

C
O
P
Y

ADOM017229

March 12, 1971

Reverend Jerome E. Lanser ✓
St. Margaret Mary Parish

████████████████████
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53222

Dear Father Lanser:

Following the recommendation of the Personnel Board, I herewith transfer you from your present position as Associate Pastor at St. Margaret Mary Parish, Milwaukee, and officially appoint you Pastor of St. Leo Parish, Milwaukee, effective March 30, 1971.

You are asked to make the required Profession of Faith in the Chancery office before March 30, 1971.

It affords me great pleasure to make this appointment and I assure you that my prayers are joined with yours as we ask God to bless your labors in this new field.

Fraternally Yours in Christ,

Most Reverend William E. Cousins
Archbishop of Milwaukee

C
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P
Y

ADOM017230

May 27, 1975

The Reverend Jerome E. Lanser ✓
St. Leo Parish

████████████████████
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53206

Dear Father Lanser:

Following the recommendation of the Personnel Board, I herewith transfer you from your present position as Pastor of St. Leo Parish, Milwaukee, and officially appoint you Administrator and Team Member of St. Leo Parish, Milwaukee, effective June 17, 1975.

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

ADOM017233

May 28, 1976

C
The Reverend Jerome E. Lanser ✓
St. Leo Parish

O
[REDACTED]
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53206

Dear Father Lanser:

P Following the recommendation of the Personnel Board, I herewith transfer you from your present position as Administrator and Team Member, St. Leo Parish, Milwaukee, and officially appoint you Pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, Racine, effective June 1, 1976.

Y Permit me to advise you that you are dispensed from making the Profession of Faith, as is required by Canon Law for newly appointed pastors.

It affords me great pleasure to make this appointment, and I assure you that my prayers are joined with yours as we ask God to bless your labors in this new field.

Fraternally yours in Christ,

Most Reverend William E. Cousins
Archbishop of Milwaukee

ADOM017234

December 6, 1976

C
O
P
Y

The Reverend Jerome E. Lanser
Hazelden Foundation

Center City, Minnesota 55012

Dear Jerry,

It has taken a week for your note of November 30th to arrive. It was warmly welcomed when I found it in this morning's mail.

In my earlier conversations with Don Weber I expressed my conviction that you would cooperate with well-meant recommendations, and I am happy to know that my confidence in you was justified. The service you have rendered the Diocese and the Church is too valuable to be rendered less effective by reason of an illness which can be corrected. Your own evidence of goodwill and your willingness to avail yourself of treatment are on the credit side of the ledger, and I offer you my thanks as well as my congratulations.

It is good to know that the task force did its job with consideration and compassion. Each of its members acts out of personal experience, and I am much encouraged by the influence they have had upon those they were called upon to help.

With the warmest of personal regards and awaiting your return to active duty, I am

Sincerely and fraternally yours in Christ,

ADOM017236

November 13, 1976

HANDELIN
Center City, Minnesota
55012

To the attention of: Counselor assigned to Rev. Jerome Lanser ✓

Dear Sir:

This is to certify that Father Jerome Lanser, pastor of Sacred Heart parish, Racine, Wisconsin is a priest in good standing in the archdiocese of Milwaukee. However, it is the unanimous opinion of the Task Force on Priest Alcoholism here that he is in need of treatment at this time. He is in agreement with this decision. His Archbishop, the Most Reverend William E. Cousins is aware that the Task Force is recommending treatment for Father Lanser.

We have every confidence that he will be most cooperative with the rehabilitation therapy. We presume that he will disclose all information needed. If our Task Force can be of additional help, please feel free to call upon us. We would appreciate being advised of the date of termination of his treatment.

It is the understanding of our Task Force by advice from your admittance personnel that our Priest Diocesan group Blue Cross plan will provide coverage. Additional billings should be addressed to the archdiocesan chancellor:

The Archdiocese of Milwaukee
c/o Rev. Robert Sampson, Chancellor
345 N. 95th Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53226

Thankyou for your service to our good brother,

Sincerely,

Rev. Donald N. Weber
Coordinator
Task Force on Priest Alcoholism

cc: Archbishop William E. Cousins

ADOM017237

cf. Fr. Esser

Albuquerque, New Mexico 87105

Thursday, March 22, 1979

Most Reverend Rembert Weakland, O.S.B.
Archbishop of Milwaukee
Saint John Cathedral
802 North Jackson Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

Dear Archbishop Weakland,

Your letter, dated Monday, March 12th, arrived on Friday, March 16th. On the same day I acknowledged this letter by phone. Sorry again for interrupting your dinner that evening. In our phone conversation I promised to put the following into writing.

I hereby submit my resignation as pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, Racine, Wisconsin. I presume you will establish the effective date.

As you indicated in your letter and our phone conversation, this was quite a decision and sacrifice, but one as you also mentioned, in the best interest and welfare of all involved. I realize that it does free me from that concern, as you suggested, but I want to be honest in saying that concern for an assignment in the future is new on my mind. I leave that in the hands of God. It is of some comfort to me to know that the other seven men in this program are in similar positions.

Because I felt that there were related issues to discuss with you, I phoned you on Monday of this week. You had already left for your office at the Chancery. I proceeded to call Father Hornacek at the personnel office. Father Esser answered the phone, and Father Hornacek was not available. I did talk with Father Esser about some of these related issues, and he indicated that he would discuss these with you. I so hope that you did not mind my talking with Father Esser about these matters, seeing that you are somewhat personally handling my situation.

I still would very much like to discuss some issues with you, and I do plan to call you or write to you about them in the near future. In the meanwhile I did promise Father Esser that I would be in touch with him or Father Hornacek. Here again, I hope this meets your approval.

Please continue your prayers for me. I know they are special.

Sincerely, In Christ,

Jerome E. Lanser
Rev. Jerome E. Lanser

ADOM017243

December 14, 1979

C
O
P
Y
The Reverend Jerome E. Lanser ✓
The Albuquerque Villa
████████████████████
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87105

Dear Father Lanser:

Following the recommendation of the Personnel Board regarding your assignment, I herewith appoint you Administrator, Pro Tem, at St. Mary Parish, Pewaukee, effective December 29, 1979.

Accept my prayers and good wishes as you move on to a new area of priestly work.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

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

ADOM017246

February 27, 1980

C
The Reverend Jerome E. Lanser ✓
St. Mary Parish
████████████████████
Pewaukee, Wisconsin 53072

Dear Father Lanser:

O
Following the recommendation of the Personnel Board, which has consulted with the parish council at St. Mary Parish, Pewaukee, I herewith appoint you Administrator at St. Mary Parish.

P
Accept my gratitude for the commendable assistance which you gave to Father Richard Altenhofen prior to his death, and accept my prayers and good wishes as you continue your priestly work in Pewaukee.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

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

ADOM017249

ARCHDIOCESE
OF MILWAUKEE

3501 SOUTH LAKE DRIVE • P.O. Box 07812 • MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN 53207-0912 • PHONE 414/769-3300

OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

March 4, 1993

Roger L. DeMark, Administrator
Franciscan Villa
3601 South Chicago Avenue
South Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53172

Dear Roger,

Thanks for your concern about Father Lanser and his situation. I believe we handled it okay, and thanks for your kindness and gentleness to him.

It's always difficult to balance all of the values present in any given situation and I guess one simply has to try to pull them all together. Thanks for being so much a part of this.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Rembert G. Weakland", with a small cross symbol to the left of the first letter.

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

ADOM017255

May 25, 1995

COPY

Reverend Jerome E. Lanser

████████████████████
South Milwaukee, WI 53172-2637

Dear Father Lanser,

As you are aware I must frequently review the situation of priests who have had allegations of misconduct placed against them. You know of my comments at the Spring Assembly for Priests where I indicated that accused priests may have to have some restrictions placed on the ministry they can offer. My concern is both to ensure that the integrity of the priesthood is upheld and to protect the diocese from any allegations of improper monitoring which might place persons at risk.

I have pondered how best to proceed with decisions regarding your status and exercise of ministry. I must bear in mind both my responsibility toward the good of the whole community and respect for your individual rights.

Given the serious nature of the obligations of celibacy, as well as the seriousness of violations alleged to have occurred by you, I find that some necessary and prudent precautions must be taken. This decision is ultimately a pastoral measure to protect the rights and reputations of all involved.

Therefore, I am enclosing a document which specifically details any ministerial restrictions which are to be observed by you.

I know that I can count on your cooperation and obedience in this matter.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

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

ADOM017258

PRECEPT

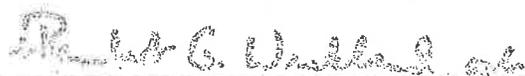
COPY

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 Jerome Lanser the following obligations:

- 1) To refrain from all contact with minors;
- 2) To cease until further notice all public ministry including the celebration of Eucharist in other than a private setting 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) 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 until notice of their revocation.

Given this 25th day of May, 1995



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



Chancellor/Notary

ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE
OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

OCT 20 2000

October 18, 2000

Reverend Jerome Lanser
[REDACTED]
Milwaukee WI 53222

Dear Jerry,

This letter is an official acceptance of your request to retire according to the policies of the Archdiocese. A copy of my letter will be sent to the Pension Board as well as to the Vicar for Clergy who will take care of the rest of the process.

I am glad that Father Len has arranged a chance to meet personally in a few weeks.

Peace.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,



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

CC: Bishop Richard J. Sklba
Vicar for Clergy Personnel
Priests Pension Board
Priest Placement Board
St. Michael's Priest Fund
Chancery

August 22, 2002

Most Rev. Richard J. Sklba, D.D.
Archbishop Cousins Catholic Center
3501 S. Lake Dr.
P.O. Box 070912
Milwaukee, WI 53207-0912

COPY

to BAC
AUG 26 2002

Dear Bishop Sklba,

I cannot even begin to imagine how hectic and stressful these past several months have been for you. The limitless correspondence, the almost endless meetings and the crucial decisions you need to make must be overwhelming, to say the least.

During these past several months I have been planning to get in touch with you about my personal status in this whole picture of sexual abuse. There are several issues that have been on my mind that I wish to share and discuss with you:

1. The fact that I have declared and still maintain my complete innocence about the false accusations brought against me. I have repeatedly expressed the fact of my innocence to you, Archbishop Weakland, Fr. Thomas Venne, Fr. Carroll Straub, Fr. Thomas Kerstein, Fr. Joseph Hornacek, Dr. [REDACTED] Attorney Gerald Boyle and Attorney Matt Flynn;
2. How my name and lawsuit information was printed in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel on June 26, 1996, July 31, 1996, January 28, 1997 and June 28, 1997, and was broadcast in a story on television station WITI-TV 6 on the 10:00 PM news on June 27, 1997, showing actual papers with my name on them;
3. How very disturbed I had been about threats made to my life. These threats were made known to me by Detective James Klisch by phone on Saturday, March 23, 1991, and by Fr. Andrew Nelson, who came to St. John Rectory, South Milwaukee on Thursday, January 7, 1993 at 9:50 AM. These threats to kill me were made by the same individual falsely accusing me of sexually abusing him;
4. The fact that my case was dismissed twice: once in Milwaukee Circuit Court and again in the Wisconsin State Supreme Court District 1 Court of Appeals on Friday, June 27, 1997, case number [REDACTED]
5. The settlement agreement and mutual release made in this case (Case No. [REDACTED]) states that:
 - A. the plaintiff will never again sue the defendants for any claim of any nature;
 - B. confidentiality of this issue is of paramount importance;
 - C. the plaintiff has made a full and final compromise and settlement of all claims.
6. The person who made this false accusation of sexual abuse against me [REDACTED]
7. Because of the vast publicity of so many sexual abuse allegations, more allegations may be made against me or any other priest that are unsubstantiated or that are not credible, due to personal financial gain.

In summary:

1. In all truth, I am COMPLETELY INNOCENT of the charges of sexual abuse brought against me, beginning October, 1991.
2. My name and lawsuit information was used in newspaper articles and in a television newscast without my permission given, since this was a false accusation case.
3. The accuser threatened to kill me, stating so more than once (see number 4 above).
4. The Milwaukee Circuit Court and Wisconsin State Court of Appeals dismissed this case against me
5. There is a signed Settlement Agreement and Mutual Release document on file in court.

ADOM017271

6. The person who brought the charges of sexual abuse against me [REDACTED]
7. My deep, legitimate concern of other false accusations being made against me (or any other priest) because of the real possibility of the accusers receiving money for their allegations.

These, and many other details too numerous to mention here, prove not only my innocence in this matter, but also that this case was, without doubt, a non-credible, unsubstantiated allegation.

In an article entitled "Three priests to spend last weekend in parishes", found in the August 22, 2002 issue of "The Catholic Herald", it is quoted as reporting that "the archdiocese is compiling a complete listing of priests with PAST CREDIBLE ALLEGATIONS OF SEXUAL ABUSE involving minors ...". Since each case of sexual abuse by priests has its own and unique value and truth, I ask that the information presented in this letter be taken into serious consideration. I respectfully request that since the sexual abuse charges made against me were not substantiated, that my name NOT APPEAR on this list. I strongly believe that printing the names of priests leaves the door wide open to many future allegations, credible or not credible, substantiated or unsubstantiated!

With sincere thanks and gratitude for your attention in this matter, I remain,

Fraternally in Christ,

Jerome E. Lanser

(Rev.) Jerome E. Lanser

[REDACTED]
Milwaukee, WI 53222
[REDACTED]


ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE
OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

February 3, 2003

Reverend Jerome Lanser

████████████████████
Milwaukee, WI 53222

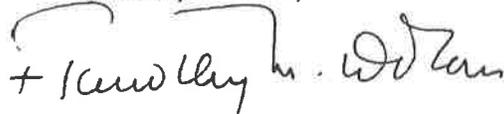
Dear Jerry,

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
OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

April 7, 2005
Year of the Eucharist
Sede Vacante

Reverend Jerome E. Lanser
[REDACTED]
Milwaukee, WI 53222

Dear Father Lanser,

You raised some important questions in your recent letter to me. I am surprised at some of them since the records of the various Vicars for Clergy indicate that you have been informed of the concerns raised about your actions. However, I will summarize how substantiation of claims is reached.

Both in your letter and in your recent conversations with Father Curt Frederick and Deacon David Zimprich, you seem to focus on two points: first you talk about only one allegation and, second, you refer to the lack of a conviction in the civil court system. As you have been informed, we are not dealing with a single allegation but with multiple incidents. You are also aware that the one case that did find its way into the court system was a civil, not a criminal case. It was not dismissed on the facts of the case but rather on the statute of limitations.

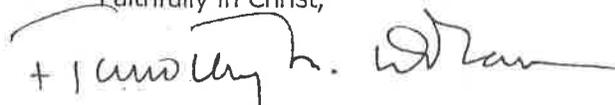
When we examine allegations, substantiation is arrived at when the dates and places reflect a person's assignment history, when there is an internal consistency among multiple reports, and when those reporting are deemed credible. In your own case, surely you have not forgotten earlier interventions about these concerns which even led to institutional and pharmaceutical efforts.

Ultimately any determination in your case will come from the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. The matter rests in their hands at this time. In the interim, you are to continue observing the provisions of the precept previously issued. I understand from reports received that you have not always been meticulously observant of those provisions. I also expect you to follow the protocols reviewed by Deacon Zimprich.

If you would like to visit personally, please call Father Jerry Herda at (414) 769-3496 to arrange an appointment.

With prayerful good wishes, I am,

Faithfully in Christ,



Most Reverend Timothy M. Dolan
Archbishop of Milwaukee

282. Jerome Lanser
On May 7, 1993 I received a confidential phone call from Jerry's sister, Sr. Martha [REDACTED] expressing some concern for Jerome's well-being and asking that contact be maintained from the Archdiocese without revealing the fact of her phone call.
RJS
469. Lanser, Jerome
On May 24, 1993 Jerome Lanser called to inquire if I had heard any thing further regarding his civil lawsuit. I told him that I had not. He was upset that I had not called him for almost two months. I apologized for not doing so.
RTV
494. Lanser, Jerome
On June 1, 1993 I received a call from Jerome Lanser, who was inquiring about a request that he have the funeral of a relative at St. Mary's in Saukville. I gave permission for him to be celebrant.
RTV
572. Lanser, Jerome
On June 21, 1993 we received the documentation for submission to the court asking for the dismissal of the civil suit regarding Jerome Lanser with allegations by [REDACTED]
RTV
614. Lanser, Jerome
On June 30, 1993 I met with Jerome Lanser, who had inquired about the status of the civil litigation. I shared with him the document prepared by Matt Flynn for dismissal of the lawsuit on grounds of the statute of limitations and other grounds. I continued to offer my support in any way I could. Jerry has seen Dr. [REDACTED] on a regular basis and said that it had been helpful.
RTV
424. Jerome Lanser
On July 2, 1993 I spoke with Fr. Driscoll of NACC, asking that he postpone any announcement of Jerome's Certification pending the outcome of a current lawsuit. I had alerted Jerome to the fact that I would be making such a request on the day before.
RJS
491. Jerome Lanser
On August 11, 1993 I spoke with Jerome who urgently requested permission to preside over the wedding of a nephew on August 21, 1993. Because there would be adequate supervision and family emergency I said that my inclination was to allow that public celebration of the Eucharist at Holy Cross in Belgium, but I stated that I would ask Tom Venne to review the matter and respond to Jerome directly later that same day.
RJS
746. Lanser, Jerome
On August 11, 1993 I received a message from Dick Sklba that Jerome Lanser had called regarding permission to be celebrant for his nephew's wedding at St. Mary's, Belgium on 8/21/93. I called Jerry that same day and acknowledged our permission to have the wedding.
RTV

20. Lanser, Jerome

On Wednesday, October 9, 1991 Joe Dean shared with me a letter received from Matthew Flynn regarding Jerome. An attorney representing a [REDACTED] alleges that Jerome sexually abused him during his years at St. Mary Parish in Menomonee Falls (1964-1969).

[REDACTED]

30.

[REDACTED]

RTV

ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE

CLERGY ADVOCACY AND MONITORING PROGRAM PROTOCOLS

I Jerome J. Lanzer^{Lanzer 12/17}, an ordained priest/deacon
Rev. Jerome E. Lanzer

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.

- 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. Said visits shall incorporate a visual check of the residence to include areas and items in plain view and closed areas, e.g., rooms, closets, desks or bureau drawers. The home check may also include opening and/or moving items to check for prohibited materials.
- 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 abide by all of the precepts currently in force and issued by Most Reverend Rembert G. Weakland, OSB on May 25, 1995.

P#2-Must refrain from all contact with minors.

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.

Jerome E. Lanzer 3-31-05
Priest/deacon participant signature Date & Time

Rev. Curt Dueserick 3-31-05 1:57P.
Program Manager(s) signature Date & Time

[Signature] 3-31-05 1:55P.
Program Coordinator signature Date & Time


ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE
OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

September 27, 2004

His Eminence Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger
Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith
Piazza del S. Uffizio 11
00193 Rome, Italy

Your Eminence:

In accord with the norms of *Sacramentorum sanctitatis tutela*, I am submitting for your consideration the case of a priest of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. Reverend Jerome Lanser has been accused of multiple acts of sexual abuse of minors. The summary of these allegations is enclosed. Father Lanser has admitted that a number of acts of sexual misconduct occurred but denies that any of the individuals were minors at the time.

Over the years, efforts were made to provide spiritual and psychological interventions that would rehabilitate Father Lanser. None of these efforts have been successful as he reoffended after each intervention, often while still in therapy. Father Lanser was considered such a risk that he was placed on drug therapy to control his impulses. He failed to observe that treatment plan and reoffended. It was thought that a non-parochial assignment might be possible. Even in that setting, he made sexual advances against an employee of the nursing home who was barely over the age of majority. With our current understanding of the nature of his condition, it is clear that he will never be able to assume any public ministry.

The pattern of his behavior as described is consistent with someone who is unable to control his sexual impulses. He displayed a particular penchant for young African American males. One of the victims who has reported the abuse is [REDACTED] who have reported similar abuse to him. A former associate pastor has reported on the steady stream of young African American males who were observed coming to the rectory late at night and leaving early in the morning. It is unclear if these young men were minors. Father Lanser has been arrested on charges of driving under the influence of alcohol several times but has never been convicted.

The impact on his various victims has been significant. Our new found awareness of the severity of damage caused by sexual abuse at the hands of clergy makes it impossible for us to ignore this situation.

Given the nature and frequency of the alleged and admitted sexual abuse, along with the serious abuse of office, I have pondered long and hard to arrive at an opinion about the most appropriate action to be taken. In order that justice may be made manifest and healing of the victims and the Church may proceed, I am asking that Reverend Jerome E. Lanser be dismissed *ex officio* from the clerical state. He is drawing from his pension fund and that will continue.

His Eminence Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger
Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith

page 2

If the judgement of Your Eminence is that this case should proceed to a dismissal by decree of your Congregation, I would cede to that judgement. Furthermore, if it is your judgement that this case should proceed through a canonical penal process, I humbly request a dispensation from prescription as well as a sanation of any procedural errors that may have occurred during the years this case was under investigation. The severity of the offenses is such that it is my opinion that these requests are justified.

I look forward to your further instructions in this matter.

With sentiments of deepest esteem, I am,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "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

ADOM017286

November 3, 1976

Rev. Jerome Lanser

Dear Jerry:

As you are quite aware, your name has frequently surfaced before the Task Force on Priest Alcoholism during recent months. Perhaps it would be in your best interest if we could discuss this matter briefly.

Jerry, could I ask you to meet me at Nazareth Hall on Monday, November 8th at 1 P.M. for a brief conference. I will be leaving for Retreat that afternoon, so I would greatly appreciate if this could be arranged, suitable to your schedule.

If I do not hear from you by the weekend, I will presume that you can make such an appointment. Many thanks and warm regards, Jerry.

Fraternally,

Don Weber

ADOM017299

[redacted] a parishioner at St. Mary's, Pewaukee called to express her concern for Lanser. A number of women were talking following a recent bowling game and one of them [redacted] said that last Tuesday Lanser entered the savings and loan building and became very obnoxious. He requested a premium gift after making a deposit and when he didn't like what it was he threw it against the wall. People in the bank thought that he had been drinking. She said that at the bingo session each week he is rather obnoxious. These occur at 10 a.m. every Tuesday. I told her I would look into the situation. The Deacon at the parish, Mr. Famularo and I have an appointment because he wants to discuss what I suspect is this same problem.

3/6/81

860. Lanser, Jerome

Father Ralph Gross told me that Father Lanser came to the Chancery Office for a dispensation and was reaking of alcohol. Gross claims that Lanser covered his face at the Chancery counter and then moved to the other side of the room where he spoke freely with Gross so that Gross could not detect the smell. However, there was no question in Gross's mind but that Lanser had been drinking.

9/15/83

1126. Lanser, Jerome

I met with Father Wieland and told him that I had received his message that Father Lanser was thought to have been drinking by some of his close friends. I told Wieland that I had checked this out thoroughly with Father Dominiak and was quite sure that Lanser was still experiencing sobriety. I told him that recently Lanser had struck out for Albuquerque to pay a visit to his former treatment center and that I considered this a good sign.

11/30/83

104. Lanser, Jerome

On Wednesday, May 22, 1991 [redacted] stopped at the office to say that he and [redacted] had received letters from an attorney inviting them to participate in a court hearing related to the [redacted] episode and implying that a subpoena would be issued if they did not cooperate. At present they are awaiting further information.

RJS

Lanser, Jerome

On Wednesday, June 10, 1992 Mary Kay Balchunas called to inform me that she had received a call from a psychiatrist asking for a priest who would be available for a patient of hers who claims he was abused by Jerry. The psychiatrist said she wanted a priest so he could tell this man that it was not his fault that he was abused. I explained to Mary Kay that there was a current situation with allegations regarding Jerry from many years ago. Mary Kay said the psychiatrist said the man was suicidal and made threats against Jerry. It sounds like the same person, so I told her I would check to see if it was the same psychiatrist whose letter we received about this in October. A check of the files showed it was the same psychiatrist. I told Mary Kay I was suspicious that the Attorney was looking for something since there had only been threats of a lawsuit all these months. I asked her to just inform the psychiatrist as she would any other caller that Project Benjamin has priests available if someone wants to talk to one.

RTV

ADOM017300

- 8/15/76 Gordon W. mentioned that a parishioner at the Falls
 ██████████ with whom Jerry is a close friend, confided
 that he believes that Fr. L is alcoholic - when he
 comes to their home, they can't stop him from drinking
 more
 - told GAW to have his parishioner call me
- 8/16/76 Elverman gave report from Mike Barrett
 Lanser drinks heavily - is gone all the time - has
 no housekeeper nor secretary - organizes nothing
 -very disillusioning to a young priest, etc.
- 8/16/76 Esser; called and gave above report.
 Barrett had seen him today and they decided mutually
 to give matter to Task Force
- Called LeMieux for data - he is gone till Sunday nite
 - asked Schneider to have him call me next week
 Schneider had heard LeMieux refer to Lanser's drinking
- 8/20/76 Call Barrett - informed him that Task Force will send
 in a team after our meeting - told him to hold fire
 until he learns what happens after Task Force makes
 a visit there
- 8/26/76 Eve. - Lanser called DNW at Swan - DNW did not res-
 pond hoping to get Task Force visit before any other
 contact
- 8/27/76 Elverman reported that Dick Nickels had been to see
 Lanser. Lanser came to see Elverman - attempted to
 keep away from Task Force- thought that DNW had let-
 ters about J.L.
- 8/30/76 Lanser called O'Brien - he was advised to see a psy-
 chologist - cf Dr. ██████████ - feels that Task
 Force "talks" too much...
- 9/30/76 W. Farrell called - informed DNW that C.Yost had told
 him that he had picked up Lanser and took him to
 Sacred Heart Monastery - from Franklin police station-
 Lanser was inebriated
- 10/1/76 Stopped at Franklin police station = they had record
 on Lanser. Lanser was picked up on August 2nd at 11AM
 sleeping in car at side of road - officer reported he
 was "intoxicated"- he was placed in "protective custody"
 and brought to their station. They called Sacred Heart
 Monastery and Fr.C.Yost came and picked him up - no
 charges.(Incident - picked up by Police in Oak Creek?)
- Elverman and O'Brien visited Lanser on Tues.,Sept.7
- Franklin police called Oak Creek police for me - they
 had record - but "no vehicle charges"
 On 7/30 at 7100 Clement Ave. off Rawson -Lanser was

10/1/76

cont'd.

parked in a ditch-officer reported he was "highly intoxicated"-sitting behind wheel - taken to police station to get a ride

10/12/76

Called Tom Wuchterl (), Menomonee Falls-friends of Lanser - he was there a month ago - but would only drink coffee - they were down on Assumption to his festival - he only had a few beers - previously he drank a quart a day - had brandy with his coffee. Wuchterls know symptoms of alcoholic - her mother was one - they classify Lanser as one. There was incident in early Spring. Lanser gave talk to Men's Club at Falls - he had been drinking before he came and after. He had a black man from St.Leo's with him. On way home, they were stopped by Milw., County Sheriff Dept. - black was sustained in deputy's car because of a previous charge of robbery(?) (Fr.Lanser's car). Wuchterl did not know whether Lanser was booked on alcoholism??? He will follow up some other leads

Oct.'76

Pakenham called - said Barrett had called him - apparently impatient with Task Force - DNW told Pakenham what had transpired thus far. - stopped at Milw.Sheriff Dept. - no record there

11/2/76

Task Force meet - agreement by all members that we should lower the boom NOW. Suggested that DNW, Elverman, O'Brien and McKinnon have conf. with him at Nazareth Hall. DNW will send out letter to Lanser. Elverman had spoken to Barrett - he said that he had not called Pakenham to complain - but Barrett and Lanser had not talked through the entire matter. Elverman will stay in touch with Barrett - DNW with Wuchterl.

11/8/76

Meeting with Lanser at Nazareth Hall - Elverman, McKinnon and O'Brien attended. Jerry did not divulge any new data - said that "if Task Force unanimously agreed then he has no choice - he must go". Very reluctant to go for 13 weeks - heard O'Brien speak well of Hazelden - so he prefers Hazelden - asked to speak to DNW alone after others left - he wanted answers on matter of "letters of complaint" that I should have received - I leveled completely - no letters but reports - admitted that Fr.Barrett, Esser, Wuchterls had given info. - and I checked it out at Police stations - he would think over "where" he would go - and would stop out at Retreat House (DNW on Retreat) on Tuesday.

11/9/76

He called there on Tues. --I was gone - illness

11/11/76

He called my home twice - agreed to make arrangements at Hagzelden tomorrow (he even considered De Paul - much prefers shorter term to 13 weeks)

- 11/12/76 Called Hazelden 3 times - made reservation for next Monday - they checked and our Blue Cross covers - but he needs \$400. down payment (he is willing to pay his own \$400.) - he suggested that Nickels could help out daily - called Nickels - will return call - informed Waldbauer and he gave names of possible help-outs - Lanser called - he probably will fly - will call Nickels re: help-out - gave him other leads from Waldbauer - he said "it isn't easy!" - will go on Monday.
-DNW will inform Sampon who was glad Lanser is going because there have been other behavioural problems??? probably due to drinking.
- 11/13/76 Calls from Lanser and Dick Nickels - he will partially help out at Racine
-drove down to Lanser to give him referral letter for Hazelden
-he showed letter to Barrett - seemed pleased that he received this personal attention - copy of letter to Archbishop - cf letter
- 11/76 called Hazelden after getting letter from Lanser - he seemed very positive about being up there - wants Elverman to provide list of AA groups available.
Returned by 12/12/76 to parish.
- 1/4/77 Task Force Meet - Question whether he has been drinking again - says Barrett
Elverman gave him list of AA's - he attended only one Monday nite - E. will try to arrange to go for dinner with him.
- 2/1/77 Elverman had lunch with him - seems O.K. - attending AA with Augustinian Brother in Racine - no evidence of drinking - very positive. Barrett may have too great expectancy of Lanser
- 2/26/77 DNW stopped to see Lanser - very cordial - only 5 minutes to talk - he will stop up to see DNW
-says Hazelden experience was very good - satisfactory for priests too - probably 15 priests there while he spent his 4 weeks at Hazelden.

Monday P.M.
January 22, 1979

Dear Archbishop Weakland:

Thought you would like to see a section of the Spanish Sunday Visitor. I think I understood most of the article, but my Spanish is not too good.

On Thursday we move to Villa Pius XII. I am really looking forward to it. I am sure though that these two months here at Via Coeli had merit too.

Needless to say, I think back to Sacred Heart, Racine, many times. Especially over the holidays I heard from quite a number of parishioners. My family and friends have also been so good in their remembering me with many letters of support and prayers.

Thanks especially for your prayers and support.

Will write again after we are settled at the Villa in Albuquerque.

Sincerely, In Christ,

Jerry Lancer

P.S. Congratulations on your initiative and leadership regarding the Spanish-Speaking Apostolate.

ADOM017307

In my most recent written report to you, I submitted information and complaints which have accumulated over the past two and one-half years about the homosexual activities and alcohol abuse by Rev. Jerome E. Lanser (JEL).

Based upon recent conversations with you and Father Paul Esser (PE), I have come to wonder whether the serious nature of JEL's problem is understood and perceived by all parties involved. This concern is precipitated by my phone conversation with you (Sunday, 11/19), and a conversation with PE on Tuesday, 11/21.

It seems that the gravity of the problems and situations have been underestimated for the sake and benefit of JEL's willingness to depart for treatment. As I said to you and PE, issues seem to be "whitewashed" by the use of misleading presentations of the facts (accusations) and as a result, JEL is not receiving a clear and honest picture.

I would cite the fact that you told me that you conveyed to JEL on 11/19 that "very few" people/parishioners were aware of his homosexual activities. This is NOT true. This should NOT have been told to JEL. Let me explain: An active member of Sacred Heart Youth Group (YG) has an older sister who is a lesbian. She saw JEL at a local gay bar and later approached him to perform a "gay" wedding/marriage ceremony between herself and her female lover. JEL informed her that such a ceremony was not permitted by the Church but that he would look for someone to perform the ceremony. JEL told her he thought it was an unlikely prospect in Wisconsin but a possibility in Illinois. This whole incident spread to members of the YG--high school age people. At the same time, JEL attempted to reprimand a few YG boys (in front of others at a YG gathering) and these boys (friends to the lesbian's brother) told him to go to hell. Information had spread about his involvement with this lesbian and consequently, he lost the respect and esteem of the YG parish members.

Since I know the gal and her brother, I am extremely aware of their activities and participation at parish functions. I am also aware

of this lady's front row presence at parish liturgical functions. Most every time I notice her, she is with a different female friend. To me, it seems to be on her part (and friends') a "come, look, and see" participation--especially after having been put off about the wedding by JEL.

What I'm trying to illustrate is that this is not a matter for a "very few."

I will cite the solicitation, by JEL, of at least one parishioner whom he has had taxi his black male friends to and from Milwaukee. I am personal witness to seeing this parishioner drop off a young black male after 11PM on a Friday night. The same parishioner picked up the same black man early Saturday AM. I was not supposed to see this since I regularly am over at school preparing for CCD classes. This incident was noticed and pointed out to me by several CCD teachers who watched the incident from a school window.

I am also aware that JEL has been in pursuit of a black male student who is a parishioner. Complaint has been made to me that JEL has "harassed" him not only by personal visits to his apartment, but also by proposition over the phone. [REDACTED]

I am extremely embarassed to say anything about the long-standing *friendship* which I maintained with seminarian [REDACTED], a black student from Africa. Two weeks after JEL met [REDACTED], I never heard from or spoke to [REDACTED] again until I met up with him in Washington, D.C. during the summer of 1977. Before 11/76, [REDACTED] and I had been friends and confidants. On several occasions (after 11/76) upon returning to the rectory late in the evening, I found [REDACTED] and JEL in the t.v. room not only inebriated but totally unable to communicate with me. Subsequently, I received complaint from [REDACTED] confessor (then and presently a member of the Seminary faculty) that "something should be done to/for/about JEL," because he did serious harm to [REDACTED]. The complaintant told me the problem

was serious but also a "matter of the seal." It was at this same time that I was questioned by seminarians of the Pastoral School about JEL's reputation.

For these reasons, and from these examples, I am concerned that an honest and truthful picture emerge regarding JEL's activities. Indeed, this is not a matter of knowledge of a "very few."

Regarding JEL's return to Sacred Heart after treatment, you and I were explicitly told by Archbishop Weakland that, upon completion of treatment, he would not return to Sacred Heart since his problems were not only public matter but also his return to Sacred Heart would be an unfair starting point for him and the parish. In my discussion with PE (11/21), JEL's return to Sacred Heart is an open issue. Again, my concern is that truth and honesty prevail in dealing with me and/or JEL. If the Archbishop has changed his position, please keep me informed.

Another area, into which I had hoped not to delve, is the financial operation directed by JEL through the parish trustee-treasurer. I am aware that this area involves purposeful misdirection by JEL to the treasurer. Specifically, I am speaking of cash disbursements to casual laborers which have gone totally unaccounted for. The financial outlays can be traced in parish records to a "part-time help" ledger; fact is, most of the time/cash was spent by these laborers in JEL's suite of rooms. At least 90% of these cash outlays were to young, black males.

I am also aware of a plan of complicity and conspiracy between JEL and the parish treasurer regarding the annual Archdiocesan cathedraticum--diocesan assessment tax. I will not venture further into this since I know a careful and thorough check of financial records will reveal a willful and purposeful plan to deceive and defraud the Archdiocese of financial assessments owed

by Sacred Heart Parish. This was (is) done at JEL's direction.

I have withheld the above information because it directly involved other persons of the parish. Prior to this report, most of the information I reported to you was related to JEL and/or my personal experience of the situations and problems. I had hoped that I would not need to draw from outside evidence or persons involved.

Perhaps I have panicked in turning in this report after my brief discussion with PE of 11/21. I have sincerely been honest--perhaps not honest enough. If I have misrepresented or misled you up to this point because of an incomplete report or lack of information on which you could have been able to act, I apologise.

Please try to understand my hesitancy, even now, in bringing forth this information. Somehow, I'd like a few names and reputations to be saved in the whole process. Perhaps this is not possible. It is unfortunate that, from my viewpoint, the sake of charity is guarded so carefully--so much so that justice and the welfare of a parish is placed in jeopardy while someone is coaxed or whitewashed into accepting treatment which, to me, seems the sole alternative remaining.

This report is submitted with the expressed intention that you share it with PE as soon as you are able.

submitted to: Rev. Joseph Hornacek

dated: 22 November 1978

submitted by: *Rev. Michael S. Barute*

John
11-22-78

This is a history (not necessarily chronological) and narrative account of events which have lead me, Rev. Michael G. Barrett, to report the activities of Rev. Jerome E. Lanser (hereafter "JEL"). The activities reported are noted either through my personal experience or through comments, criticisms, or complaints made to me by parishioners and non-parishioners alike. All incidents noted herein are related to JEL's abuse of alcohol or his homosexual activities. Most informants' names could probably be furnished, if deemed necessary. Please understand this is not a complete report since I am attempting to cover approximately 27 months.

Since it is generally documented with the Personnel Board (hereafter "PB") and the Task Force on Alcoholism (hereafter "TF"), the series of events which lead to JEL's first hospitalisation need not be re-presented here. Basically, upon written complaints, a formal presentation of the facts to the PB by me, and a few interviews with JEL, it was decided that he undergo the treatment program at Hazelden. At this time, Rev. Donald Weber informed me and JEL that Rev. [REDACTED] had just returned from Hazelden and spoke highly of the program.

JEL returned after the 28 day program. On this 28th day, the TF called and asked why he returned so early, saying that they had hoped he'd remain for the extended 5 week program since they thought there was "something else wrong with him." It should be noted that Hazelden was the plan chosen after personal confrontation with JEL (upon the advice of PB), confrontation with JEL by me and Rev. Richard Nichols (upon advice of PB), but finally, through an official request to PB, by me, that the situation was beyond my resources. It was in August 1976 that my official request to the PB was turned over to TF. It was in November 1976 that JEL received orders for Hazelden from TF.

In the meantime (August 1976 to November 1976), I was asked to treat this as a confidential matter - - which I did. At the same time, word had reached priests that Sacred Heart Parish and its pastor had serious problems. I was questioned about this at a Fall Clergy day by several priests; and seminarians from the Pastoral School asked if everything they heard about JEL was true. In the interest of confidentiality and JEL's reputation, I denied everything. I was finally "assured" by a priest, at a Eucharistic Day, that everything would be alright now that JEL was gone for treatment. Fact was, JEL was at Sacred Heart and I knew nothing about a treatment plan. At this point, I phoned Rev. Donald Weber in complaint. He assured me that things would be taken care of. The Hazelden orders followed shortly.

The observations I made, before the Hazelden orders, about JEL's alcohol abuse are still the same observations I make today. The complaints I received before the Hazelden orders are still the same complaints I receive today from parishioners. In summary, he is regarded as sloppy (most often in tee-shirt), of extreme emotion, and unreliable in fulfilling promised programs, commitments, and appointments. It should be noted that most of his contact with parishioners is done by phone and many people have received rude treatment through degrading and humiliating inferences. An example, perhaps extreme, was a formal complaint lodged not long ago to the Archbishop by a (now) former parishioner.

Not as extreme would be the public scorn, ridicule and degradation suffered by a lector (at Sunday Mass), the Sister principal (in front of parents), and the parish seminarian (in front of the choir he directs). This is to say nothing of the service-related businesses who refuse to service Sacred Heart Parish any longer because of their treatment by JEL.

In total, I have seen no evidence of a positive response to the Hazelden treatment plan; nor am I aware of any follow-up work done with JEL by the TF. As far as JEL's drinking habits are concerned, I am aware only that he is drinking as much, if not more, than before his treatment. He does not drink in front of me, nor does he drink at parish events, nor is he at any of them long enough to have a drink. I have happened upon him at the back door and refrigerator door on numerous occasions hauling beer in and out. I have met him heading to his room with liquor in a dixie cup day in and day out, at any time of the day. Since Hazelden though, I have not received any phone calls from local police departments, as I had before his treatment. Before his treatment, he enjoyed protection from legal prosecution three times that I am aware of: Monsignor Francis Beres intervened once (I was told) and I did twice (Oak Creek and Franklin Police Departments).

Regarding JEL's homosexual activities, the earliest I had heard of such activities came when I was asked if, indeed, this was the case. This was around the same time as the Hazelden orders. Hoping that priests had just gotten their gossip mixed up, I dismissed and ignored questions and inferences. I did ascertain that it was Rev. Thomas Le Mieux who suggested that JEL had this "preference." I doggedly refused to accept this label. I denied it since I thought it could ruin JEL's reputation further.

Only a few months later, a priest who did not want to "break the seal" suggested that something should be done to/for JEL with regard to his homosexual activities.

Shortly thereafter, I received a phone call from a complainant who informed me that JEL was a member of a health club in Milwaukee which accomodates and offers facilities for consenting, homosexual adults.

Inferences and inquiries from parishioners generally come in the form of questions, asking who the black men are who have answered the door or phone. Also, I am asked if JEL has a lot of black priest friends. The response most often given by JEL is: "they are friends of mine from St. Leo's." This is when I became aware that these relationships appeared more unusual than usual, since I was aware of few, if any, friendships or relationships established by him with male or female parishioners at Sacred Heart. Inquiries were also made of me about the black men seen arriving late and leaving early in the morning from the rectory garage - - transported either by JEL or the parish custodian.

As for my personal experiences and observations, I have, from the start, been aware of late night door slamming, late night phone calls from these friends, and late night notes left to me informing me that a friend of his from St. Leo's and a "friend of a friend" would be spending the night at the rectory.

About a year ago, these activities reached extreme proportions. In presenting this matter to JEL, I made it known that this practice of over-night guests should really be limited to relatives and priests. This was a mutual agreement but within two months, similar activities began again in a more subtle manner. I am aware that a younger male, sent to Sacred Heart by the courts to put in some hours of community service, also stayed overnight in JEL's suite of rooms.

About 20 months ago, I received a call from a man whom JEL had entertained the previous evening. This man, [REDACTED] asked if he could come over to the rectory and go to bed with me. He said he "liked what he saw"

when I was introduced to him by JEL on the previous evening. I refused, yet he continued to call until 2 AM. The next morning JEL called [REDACTED] in and told him that not only should his brother clear out immediately, but if he didn't, he [REDACTED] would lose his job at the parish.

Up to that date, I had not received such a specific request although I had received numerous late night phone calls asking for JEL. After a time, I would put both parish lines on "hold" so that I could get a partial night's rest.

Six months ago, I received a phone call at 1:30 AM. After telling the male caller that JEL was not in, he asked if I would perform a sexual act with him. He said it would simply be a matter of picking him up at his home and bringing him to the rectory. I insisted that I could not accomodate him; he insisted that even though I did not know him, I should do this as a "favor for Jerry." I told him I could not talk anymore; I hung up. He phoned back immediately 3 times in a row.

Last week I received a call from this same person again. Since JEL was not home, he begged me to get together with him. I refused and this angered him. He hung up on me. It should be noted that prior to my clear and certain awareness of JEL's acquaintances and homosexual activities, I had met unknowingly with this same man at George Webb's restaurant in Racine. When he called, he asked for JEL. Since JEL was not in, he explained to me that JEL had been of assistance and solace to him in time of need. Since JEL was not in, he asked, would I please meet with him to talk? Fair enough. I met him at Webb's, we had a cup of coffee and as I was driving him home he asked that I stop the car since he did not feel well. I obliged and this was my mistake. He said he wanted to rape me. I explained to him that I thought he had tricked

me by getting me there under false pretenses. I told him I would have no part in his wishes, that I preferred to talk.

As we talked, he pleaded that I take him to Sacred Heart rectory and give him some wine or whiskey. Then, he said, we could fool around. He said this was the normal procedure which was followed when he met with JEL. When I persistently denied his requests, he became furious and told me to get out of my own car - - that he was going to steal it and strip it to sell the parts. At his point I told him to get the hell out of the car. When he said no, I said that I was afraid of nothing and I then challenged him physically. This is when he left.

As for general knowledge about JEL's homosexual activities (on the part of parishioners), references have been made about his presence at gay bars in the Racine-Kenosha area. These have been limited references but, as I reflect back, I've kind of been on the tail end of finding out most of these activities anyway. Put another way, I have not solicited any of this information - - it has slowly, but surely, found its way to me.

I could list several other specific events, occurrences, and circumstances; I prefer not to. If further information is required, if enough has not been presented to consider this more than a "border-line" case, I will do what I have to.

Respectfully submitted to: Rev. Joseph Hornacek

on: 2 October, 1978

by: *Rw. Michael S. Barrett*

JH
10-2-78
PME
10-10-78

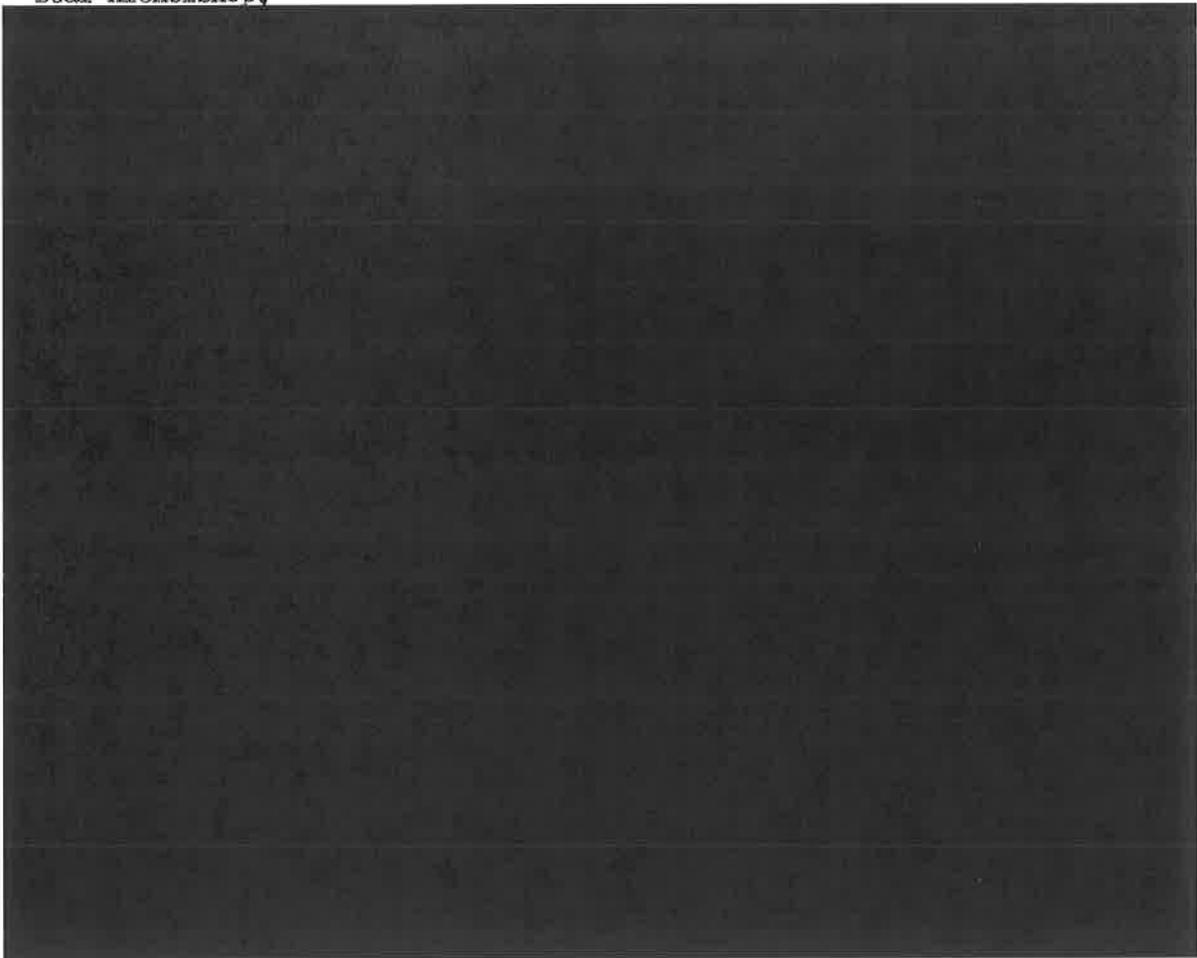


Confidential

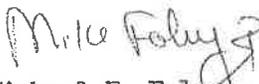
September 3, 1979

Archbishop Rembert Weakland, O.S.B.
802 North Jackson Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

Dear Archbishop,



Sincerely,


Michael E. Foley, S.P.

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH

2201 Northwestern Avenue
Racine, Wisconsin 53404
Phone (414) 634-5526

3 March 1979

Archbishop Rembert G. Weakland, OSB
P.O. Box 2018
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201

Your Excellency:

It is my intention to bring to your attention 3 major issues which I would like to discuss with you on March 8th. I prefer to precede this discussion with a written document for the sake of order and clarity. The 3 issues which I intend to present are these: I. Father Lanser's (JEL) most current behavior and involvement with "affairs back home in Racine;" II. the current disposition of the family of Sacred Heart Parish (SH); and III. my own disposition regarding I. and II.

I. JEL has not left SH in spirit insofar as he continues to be in touch with the trustees with instructions and directives as to parochial procedure and administration. He has sifted through various Bulletin packets and clipped copious articles from various parishes--articles having nothing to do with SH. The trustee, to whom he mails them, gave them to me and questioned JEL's actions and directives which seem to have no logical bearing on the matters at hand of SH.

JEL requested that I make arrangements for the change of address for the Herald and Archdiocesan mailings--I obliged without delay. He continues to make this a subject of phone conversation with parish personnel and the Personnel Board (PB).

JEL continues to make some issue of the fact that I am not writing him. He expressed to the PB that he was concerned about "our relationship." Firstly, I don't believe (now) that a relationship can be cultivated nor begun through the "pen-pal"

ADOM017338

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Phone (414)634-5526

2.

procedure. Secondly, in my one and only sincere attempt to try to communicate personally with JEL, he offered to send a photocopy to another priest. I cannot tolerate this behavior. In total, it would be untrue for me to say that we ever had a relationship; it is unreal for JEL to pretend we did or to ask the PB to mediate a restoration of the relationship.

With regard to his most recent request for his auto, I was informed by the dealership that the car is in poor driving condition and probably would not make it to the state line. I was told JEL knew this when he turned it in for storage.

The above are more current issues--perhaps to an outsider they appear minor. Too, it could be that I have become overly sensitive or easily annoyed by their occurrence. Nonetheless, they serve to round out a wider issue/perspective when they are coupled with JEL's past behavior (already reported), along with recent documentation of his arrest for sexual misconduct in 1970. I feel compelled to make further observation on phenomena unobservable/unperceived by those who are unacquainted with JEL's inability to be honest, sincere, forthright. I lived with him for 2½ years and if that qualifies anyone to speak, I should be the one.

My initial observation is that his present dealings with the PB are manipulative and superrerogatory. For the PB to allow continued communication over trivial matters only invites deception. I believe that as long as JEL has someone to talk to (who will listen), he continues to "pull the string" that, to the untrained ear, plays a new tune each time. I've heard the same old tune so often and JEL seems to continue to behave as if there is no major problem--just a few minor technicalities.

As long as he continues to call home, request on-going reports

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3.

about his parish, place demands on parish personnel, write parishioners that he is "fine and doing well"--all totalled-- that he is important and vital to SH, he will never be able to say "I need help," a basic pre-requisite for treatment of his illness.

It would be my conclusion that the issue of his illness and absence is being nursed into further unreality by a delayed response to obvious signs of a deep-seated problem--the seriousness of which none of us can begin to estimate or define during/after 6 months of treatment.

Hence, it is my belief that honesty is the best policy. JEL's most obvious symptomatic problem (alcoholism) will not even begin to be touched until he hits rock bottom. To avoid/ignore this issue (to say nothing of the deeper issues) by holding out SH as an incentive is poor clergy policy, it darkens prognosis, and it impedes transmission of the gospel message to SH--as we wait in the "meantime" for the end time.

II. As for the parish, the over-riding feeling at present seems to be a sense of mistreatment by the clergy. People feel misinformed and they resent me as an agent of misinformation. For example, JEL expressed concern recently that well-wishers thought he'd be back by Christmas, 1978. I have been the subject of numerous inquiries about his condition, his whereabouts, and his status. I feel my response, 3 months into this, is superfluous; yet I continue to say: "Father Lanser is on an extended sick leave of absence." The point is that people know there is more to it than my terse response and they now await some explanation, some straightforward information about the future of the parish. And so do I.

By way of a general bad taste in the mouths of parishioners, the matter of a \$7,400 expenditure was brought up at the parish

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4.

meeting of 29 January 1979. The expenditure was authorized solely by JEL after consensus of the 1978 meeting was against spending that kind of money for trees and shrubs. Bitterness and resentment continues to prevail over this issue because JEL explicitly instructed the secretary to have the minutes of the 1978 meeting read contrary to what actually was agreed upon and what transpired. The attempt at concealment was aborted at the 1979 meeting and the secretary confessed the following day of JEL's instruction that the facts be altered. The result: parishioners left the 1979 meeting mistrusting and suspicious and fully aware of what transpired.

JEL has left an indelible mark on the minds of those who have served on the SH Board of Directors. He has repeatedly expressed his intention to "never start a parish council" at SH for several reasons: 1) we've never had one, 2) we don't need all those meetings, 3) our quarterly Board meetings serve the same purpose, and 4) Bishop Brust's parish doesn't have a council. He has publicly ridiculed the people who come up with ideas for shared responsibility and the decision making process. Consequently, there is little receptivity to the notion of parish council and simultaneously a withdrawal of involvement by those with new/different ideas for development of the parish.

While I cannot argue with the Clergy Manual policies, I can report of the poor reception that was given to the order that the treasurer forward a check for \$1,380 to JEL for 3 months sick pay. I have a moral difficulty in reimbursing a priest and making SH responsible for him when he really did nothing here for 2½ years except put in time. And it makes me wonder if the treatment of the whole JEL affair does not illustrate a clerical narrow-mindedness which looks primarily at a priest in trouble, rather than the 2,860 parishioners who seem almost too patient as they await a new source of leadership and new standards.

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Included in the current disposition of SH, I would like to make mention of two incidents which took place this week. The trustee-treasurer was here in the evening and answered the door, only to be met by two county sheriffs who wanted to serve papers on JEL for some "bad check" cashing scheme in which JEL was involved. The scheme took place at our local bank where several parishioners work. While I would have preferred to handle this matter with the sheriffs present, it is obviously no longer sufficient to tell parishioners or legal authorities that JEL is "on an extended sick leave of absence." It's just not a good enough cover for matters which continue to come forward.

Again this week, some parishioners called me and asked if they could see me soon. When we met, they expressed concern for the parish and several parishioners with whom they had spoken. Not only is there much truth to what is being whispered these days but there is also some falsehood; namely that JEL was chasing with women, that I drove him to drink and made him sick enough to drive him from the parish. I am realistic enough to know that there will always be rumors; I do believe that reputations could be further damaged needlessly too. It is a real dilemma to continue to answer for JEL's behavior-- real or imagined. And moreso, it is impossible to cover up his improprieties.

III. As for myself and my disposition, I may appear to be crude and harsh. If this be the appearance, it may be the case. It may also be an indicator of what kind of person I am and what kinds of demands I make of others and myself. I am most willing to risk whatever it says about me. Some might even wonder how the table would be turned in 20 years, were I to be the recipient of, what I consider, the dubious benefits presently afforded JEL. I can only ask that I would be treated with honesty, reality, immediacy, and professionally. I realise

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that's a bold request and maybe a tough order to fill. Nonetheless, it's a boldness which might have precipitated a more effective/efficient handling of the JEL issue--both on the parish level and for me personally.

As the phone calls continue to come in at all hours--and I have just received the third in a row from the same man as I sit here finalising this document--I am eminently aware that it no longer matters if JEL is here; every priest is queer, whoever answers the phone is queer. And I resent that inference, I resent the phone calls, and judging from their frequency, I suspect SH rectory phone number is on the matchbook cover of most members of the gay circuit of Racine. I resent the indecisive action that promotes the hope that when JEL returns to SH, the rectory will once again become an all male health spa. I am somewhat disturbed that I must continue to say that JEL is on an extended sick leave of absence to all who call and ask me if I'd like to fuck them or be fucked by them. It could be ended so easily by saying that JEL had severe emotional problems and serious drinking problems and he will not be back here at SH so please do not call here anymore. Also I resent the fact that the subject (among our high school youth) at a CYO retreat must be JEL and his problems. What this inaction seems to reflect is an attitude that, until his return, "whatever will be, will be." I resent what seems to be an insensitivity that places SH in the state of limbo--a parish that belongs to the parishioners, not JEL.

Perhaps some of the resentment would not be there, perhaps I could find more peace if I felt that what I am doing and what has transpired here with JEL could be perceived as the correct/proper way to handle the situation; unfortunately, I am not at all sure of this. And the question continues to come up: why did I wait so long to inform the powers that be? My foremost fear was that nothing would be done.....and I feel that is essentially

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what has happened: nothing. You might respond that at least JEL is out of the situation and away from SH. I have only one thought in that case: a wound is healed with proper treatment and medication but this one (SH) continues to fester.

In summary, I feel I differ basically and essentially with the treatment plan. I can no longer look at this from the clerical point of view: I see this as a people issue, a parish issue, a matter of grave scandal. If it continues to be treated as a clerical issue, then that involves the institutional church/process/procedure which, frankly, I do not find credible, nor will I have any part of. I have no more faith in this route since all roads have led down a path of casual inactivity.

I believe I have been patient with this problem: I've looked, I've prayed, I've consulted, and I've questioned. Surely, I hope you would expect nothing less. At the same time, I serve notice through this document that my only intention of remaining here at SH will be with a new pastor. That firm intention is given with the understanding that it may take some time.

At any rate, this document should not be received as an ultimatum for what you must do. It is a reflection of what I can do (and intend to do) and am able to do. As a young, active, functioning priest, I am done covering up and hiding the scandal. I've come to the point, in dealing with this case, where I feel I am either correct in my perceptions of what is going on, or way off base. If the later were the case, of course I would not be writing you. I look forward to being with you this Thursday, and I remain sincerely, in Christ,



(Rev. Michael G. Barrett)

cc: Rev. Paul Esser

ADOM017344

March 12, 1979

C
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P
Y

The Reverend Jerome Lanser
The Albuquerque Villa - Servants of the Paraclete
████████████████████
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87105

Dear Jerry,

It is good to hear from you occasionally and know that all goes well. Keep me informed and let me know if there is anything I can be doing for you here. What is most important now is that you make the best of the psychological and spiritual opportunities offered you, so that your ministry in the future will be truly effective.

Now I would like to ask a special sacrifice of you. So that the spiritual care of the faithful of Sacred Heart will not be neglected, I would like you to resign as pastor, that we might open-list the post and place the parish on a normal keel.

I know this will be a sacrifice, but it will also liberate you from concern, that you can be freer to concentrate on your own problems.

Blessings. Keep up the openness. Only good can result from such sacrifices.

Fraternally yours in the Lord,

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

CC: Personnel Board

ADOM017345

July 15, 1981

Rev. Jerome E. Lanser
St. Mary Church

[REDACTED]
Pewaukee, WI 53072

Dear Father Lanser:

Following our discussion last Monday evening and with the concurrence of Archbishop Weakland I herewith transfer you from your position as pastor at St. Mary Church, Pewaukee and assign you to a sick leave of absence effective July 17, 1981.

After you have received further treatment at Albuquerque Villa, which has been advised as necessary, you will be reassigned to another position in the Archdiocese. The Personnel Board and I will work that out with you at a later date.

In order to afford a smooth transition for the leadership of St. Mary's Church I have appointed Father Donald Weber as temporary administrator effective July 17. I have asked him to get in touch with you before you leave for information, details, etc.

I wish to thank you for your cooperation and understanding of your need for treatment at this time. I pray that God will favor you with a speedy recovery so that your effectiveness in the ministry will be enhanced. Know that I stand ready to help you in anyway I can. With prayers and blessings, I am

Faternally yours in Christ,

Reverend Joseph A. Janicki
Vicar for Priest Personnel

JAJ/srs

cc Archbishop Weakland
Priests' Personnel Board
Father Sampon

ADOM017355

September 24, 1981

C
O
P
Y

The Reverend Jerome E. Lanser ✓
[REDACTED]
Port Washington, Wisconsin 53074

Dear Father Lanser:

Following the recommendation of the Personnel Board regarding your assignment, and with the concurrence of the Archbishop, I herewith transfer you from your present position of Temporary Sick Leave and appoint you Associate Pastor at St. Roman Parish, Milwaukee, effective September 29, 1981. You will kindly report on that date to Father Gerald Dominiak.

In keeping with the Term of Office Policy inaugurated August 1, 1980, your assignment will exist for a period of up to six years from its effective date and after that will be reviewed for possible extension.

Accept my prayers and good wishes as you move on to a new area of priestly work.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

Reverend Joseph A. Janicki
Vicar for Priest Personnel

ADOM017366

December 20, 1984

C
O
P
Y

██████████ M.D.
East Town Therapy Services
██
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Dr. ████████:

Thank you for the update of Father Jerome Lanser. It does sound like you work well together and that the prognosis is very hopeful.

If there is any further information or involvement on my part which is needed, please do not hesitate to call or write at the above address and phone number.

May you have a blessed Christmas and new year as well.

Sincerely yours,

Reverend Joseph A. Janicki
Episcopal Delegate for Clergy

JAJ/srs

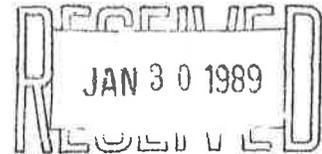
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ARCHDIOCESE
OF MILWAUKEE

3501 SOUTH LAKE DRIVE • P.O. BOX 2018 • MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN 53201 • PHONE 414/769-3300

OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

Bishop Sklba



January 27, 1989

The Reverend Jerome E. Lanser
St. Roman Parish
[REDACTED]
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53221

Dear Father Lanser,

It is with great pleasure that I ask you to become the Chaplain at Franciscan Villa in South Milwaukee. Following the recommendation of the Personnel Board, I am happy to entrust this office to your care beginning on February 28, 1989. This appointment is being made for a period of time up to six years, after which time it will be reviewed for possible extension.

As a representative of the Archbishop in this office, 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. To accomplish this mission, I ask you to work closely and in collaboration with the administration at Franciscan Villa.

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

ADOM017393

RECEIVED
FEB 25 1991

February 25, 1991

CONFIDENTIAL MEMO

TO: Bishop Richard Sklba
FROM: Father Tom Trepanier
RE: Allegation Against Father Jerome Lanser

On February 25, 1991, Mr. [REDACTED] Franciscan Villa Nursing Home called with concerns about Jerome Lanser and the allegation made by Ms. [REDACTED] that Father Lanser may have been involved in a homosexual incident in which he was allegedly robbed of his car and other personal belongings. Mr. [REDACTED] has a concern that if this is true, it has definite ramifications for the Franciscan Villa and Father Lanser's ability to work there. Mr. [REDACTED] wants to be contacted.

The normal procedure for allegations is shared.

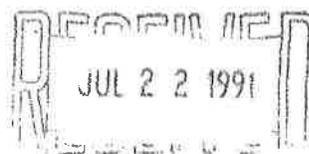
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ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE

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

The Chancery
(414) 769-3340



MEMO

July 20, 1991

TO: Bishop Sklba

FROM: Ralph Gross *RG*

RE: A complaint about Fr. Jerry Lanser

I have not contacted Jerry Lanser about this complaint because of its nature.

While I was directing a retreat last weekend one of the retreatants who is a member of St. John's Parish in S. Milwaukee approached me and stated that she was very concerned about the scandal being given by one of the priests who lives at St. John's, Fr. Jerry Lanser. Apparently it is a substantiated fact that Jerry has been arrested for homosexual affair(s) and has been beaten up by a fellow homosexual. It seems that a number of people know of these things and are "very upset that the Archdiocese has not done anything about these happenings or getting some help for this sick man."

It was stated that some of the people of St. John's Parish feel that because of some staff members and the priest assignments made in recent years at St. John's, the parish is getting a reputation as a homosexual haven.



ADOM017400

FILE COPY

ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE

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

Department of Clergy Personnel

January 13, 1992

National Association of Catholic Chaplains
Certification Committee

Dear Committee:

I am writing on behalf of Father Jerome Lanser, presently a chaplain at Franciscan Villa Nursing Home in South Milwaukee, who is seeking chaplaincy certification from the National Association of Catholic Chaplains.

I am very happy to endorse this application. Father Jerome Lanser has served the people and staff at Franciscan Villa for two years now and has done so very faithfully. He has also served as Pastor and Associate Pastor in several parishes during his years of priestly service. He brings a wealth of experience to his ministry as chaplain. Father Jerome Lanser is a priest in good standing with the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, and I believe he is truly qualified for chaplaincy ministry. Please give his request proper consideration and hopefully a positive response.

Sincerely,

Reverend R. Thomas Venne
Vicar for Clergy Personnel

RTV/srs



ADOM017401



Franciscan Villa

A Franciscan expression of caring . . .

3601 S. Chicago Avenue — South Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53172
(414) 764-4100

February 8, 1993

FEB 12 1993

Archbishop Rembert Weakland
ARCHBISHOP COUSINS CATHOLIC CENTER
3501 S. Lake Drive
Milwaukee, WI 53207

Dear Archbishop Weakland:

I am writing this letter on Monday, February 8, 1993 with a very heavy heart because of what has transpired during this last month or two concerning Father Jerome Lanser. We called a special Department Directors meeting this morning, per Father's request. He gave his final farewell to the Department Directors group. Father also wrote an announcement concerning his departure from the Villa which will be posted throughout the nursing home so that other employees, residents/clients and family members will know of his leaving.

All are viewing Father Jerome's departure as being of a private nature with stress related problems and the understanding that he will be reassigned through the Archdiocese. I think we're in pretty good shape concerning that and hopefully things will work themselves out in the future.

I would just like to say to you, to Bishop Sklba and to Father Venne how much I appreciated your help in this matter. It was a very trying time for me because of my beliefs in the Catholic religion and knowing what you people are going through yourselves at the present time. I want the record to show that I have deep respect and regard for Father Jerome and how he relates to the elderly. He has done a tremendous job here. Except for this incident that came to our attention, Father Jerome has shown himself to be a quality individual when it comes to the elderly and his concern for people. I'm really not 100% sure of what transpired - nor can any of us be because we weren't there. I do think Father made an error in some judgement but I don't think he thought he was doing anything wrong at the time. I have wished Father Lanser the best of luck and only hope that you will continue to help him in the future.

Again, I thank you for your support and help in this and would also like to say that if at any time in the future I can serve on a committee, on a Board, or anything to help the Archdiocese/Catholic re-

An affiliate of Franciscan Sisters Health Care, Inc., Little Falls, MN

ADOM017426

ligion, I would be more than happy to do so time permitting. I truly admire the type of people you are and the concerns you have for humanity. May God continue to bless all of our efforts!

Sincerely,



Administrator



cc: Bishop Richard Skiba
Father Tom Venne

ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE

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

Office of Auxiliary Bishop

February 11, 1993

Fr. Jerome Lanser

South Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53172

Dear Fr. Jerome:

I write to express my appreciation for your courage and understanding in view of our conversation on Thursday morning, February 4, 1993. In view of all the circumstances converging at this time, it continues to seem wise that you refrain from public sacramental ministry at Franciscan Nursing Home or St. John's Parish in South Milwaukee after Sunday, February 7, 1993, and thus concentrate your energy upon dealing with the many stresses which you currently experience.

Please be assured of our ongoing support and fraternal care. As I stated, know that you will continue receiving monthly salary and benefits until the issues are resolved. Should you desire to seek residence in another location which could provide more of a supportive community please feel free to contact Fr. Thomas Venne's office immediately. This Lenten season may become a rich new pilgrimage in an unexpected way, and I look forward to the graces of Easter and their promise of new beginnings.

Sincerely,

Most Reverend Richard J. Sklba
Auxiliary Bishop of Milwaukee

RJS/rt

Copy to:

Fr. Thomas Venne
Vicar for Clergy

FILE COPY

ADOM017428



ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE

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

Office of Auxiliary Bishop

February 11, 1993

MAR 04 1993

Fr. Jerome Lanser

South Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53172

Dear Fr. Jerome:

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Sincerely,

Most Reverend Richard J. Sklba
Auxiliary Bishop of Milwaukee

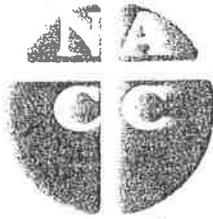
RJS/rt

Copy to:

Fr. Thomas Venne
Vicar for Clergy



ADOM017429



National Association of Catholic Chaplains

June 11, 1993

Rev. Jerome Lanser
St. John Parish

South Milwaukee, WI 53172

Dear Rev. Lanser:

The Certification Commission of the National Association of Catholic Chaplains met recently. I am very pleased to inform you that the Commission, upon reviewing the decision of the National Association of Catholic Chaplains Appeal Panel, grants you Certification as Chaplain. As you know, the NACC Certification Commission grants you this certification in the name of the United States Catholic Conference.

In the name of the Commission, I would like to take this opportunity to extend sincere congratulations and best wishes as you celebrate this achievement. Your certification is a public recognition by the Church in the United States that you have taken seriously education for ministry and that you are personally committed to quality pastoral care. We hope that this certification will be an experience of personal and professional support for you. We also hope that it will challenge you to continue your educational process in pastoral care.

This certification remains valid for a five-year period provided that you remain a member of the NACC in good standing during that time. Included in this mailing are the Continuing Education forms you will need to prepare for future recertification.

Beginning last year, certificates are now presented in person to newly certified members at the annual convention. If you are unable to attend, your certificate will be mailed to you after the convention. In the meantime, if proof of your certification is required, this letter may be used to document the fact that you were granted certification.

I would like to add a word of personal best wishes and prayers that your ministry may be blessed manifold.

Sincerely,

Rev. Robert Rochon
Certification Commission Chair

RAR: cw

cc: Regional Certification Chair

3501 South Lake Drive P.O. Box 07475 Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53207-0475

(414) 485-4898

ADOM017437

ARCHDIOCESE  OF MILWAUKEE

OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

MAY 30 1995

May 25, 1995

Reverend Jerome E. Lanser

South Milwaukee, WI 53172-2637

Dear Father Lanser,

As you are aware I must frequently review the situation of priests who have had allegations of misconduct placed against them. You know of my comments at the Spring Assembly for Priests where I indicated that accused priests may have to have some restrictions placed on the ministry they can offer. My concern is both to ensure that the integrity of the priesthood is upheld and to protect the diocese from any allegations of improper monitoring which might place persons at risk.

I have pondered how best to proceed with status and exercise of ministry responsibility toward the your individual rights.

regarding your and both my ity and respect for

Given the serious nature of seriousness of violations al some necessary and prudent p ultimately a pastoral measure all involved.

Jerome Lanser

acy, as well as the y you, I find that . This decision is and reputations of

Therefore, I am enclosing a document which specifically details any ministerial restrictions which are to be observed by you.

I know that I can count on your cooperation and obedience in this matter.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Rembert G. Weakland

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

Jerry,
I feel this is necessary at this time to avoid scandal of any sort.
Peace!

3501 South Lake Drive, P.O. Box 07912
Milwaukee, WI 53207-0912 • (414)769-3497

ADOM017450

OCT 12 2000 10-9-00

Joe -

There are a
few questions.

I'll call you

soon

Jerome

October 9, 2000

Archbishop Rembert G. Weakland, O.S.B.
3501 S. Lake Dr.
P. O. Box 07912
Milwaukee, WI 53207-0912

Dear Archbishop Weakland:

At the request of Rev. Joseph Hornacek, I am submitting to you the required letter to initiate my retirement process.

Please advise me as to any further official procedures that may be necessary.

Sincerely, In Christ,

Jerome E. Lanser

Rev. Jerome E. Lanser

CC: Rev. Joseph Hornacek

ADOM017567

Memo

To: Dr. Barbara Reinke
From: +Rembert
Subject: Jerome Lanser
Date: May 8, 2002

Barbara,

The phone call I took on Monday morning at the end of our meeting was from one of our priests, Father [REDACTED] (Phone: [REDACTED]). He asserted that in 1973 or 1974 when he was about 13/14 Father Jerry Lanser tried to abuse him sexually. He reported this to Father Thadeus Bryl who was also stationed at St. Leo's parish. Father Bryl then took him to see Bishop Brust to whom he related the story.

He also related that a fellow classmate of his [REDACTED] was in touch with him recently telling him also of an abuse at the hands of Father Jerry Lanser. [REDACTED]'s phone is : [REDACTED] I told him to tell [REDACTED] that he would be receiving a call from Dr. Barbara Reinke ✓ of our office for Project Benjamin. Since this phone number is a 414, it might be possible then to take an account in person. It might also be well to see if there is any reference in Lanser's file about the conversation with Leo Brust. Father [REDACTED] comes back to Milwaukee occasionally and thus could also be interviewed personally.

Thanks.

+Rembert

+Rembert

ADOM017591

Received this 8-27-02
letter on

ARCHDIOCESE  OF MILWAUKEE
OFFICE OF THE AUXILIARY BISHOP

August 27, 2002

Today's date: May 5, 2004

Rev. Jerome E. Lanser
[Redacted]
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53222

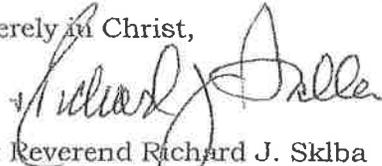
Dear Jerome:

I write to acknowledge our recent telephone conversation, as well as your letter of August 22, 2002 in which you addressed accusations made against you approximately five years ago.

* At the same time I must report that earlier this Spring an accusation surfaced from almost 30 years ago at St. Leo's Parish. Because of the pressure to deal with more urgent cases in a timely fashion, no one has been able to proceed in any further investigation in this particular matter. Only when our current process of review by Judge John Fiorenza can the matter be brought to your attention and some final report be written.

In the meantime we do our very best to respect the rights of all parties concerned. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Sincerely in Christ,



Most Reverend Richard J. Sklba
Diocesan Administrator

RJS/rt

* These are the same issues from 1964-1969 at St. Mary's in Meno Falls. Again I repeat my innocence in this allegation from [Redacted]

* * Concerning this issue - I have never heard of who made this accusation - or do I not have the right of knowing all details of this accusation

564. Lanser

I spoke to Father Michael Foley about complaints we have been receiving concerning Lanser's erratic behavior. His suggestion was that I confront Lanser about this and then if there is anything Foley can do he would be most pleased to come to Milwaukee or to have Lanser come to Arizona. I told him I would try to do it this week or early next week.

3/30/81

684. Lanser, Jerome

I met with him to discuss the concerns that have come to my attention since January 1 about Lanser's health and the implication that he has been drinking. He immediately acknowledged humbly that he had slipped a few times in regard to drinking. He further stated that he had not been all that faithful to his AA meetings. He wanted to know some of the specific complaints, and while I did not identify names, I told him about the funeral incident and the incident at the bank. He had some lame excuses about them and was on the defensive. I told him that in the future I would have the complaintants speak to him directly and he said he would be very happy if they would do so. I encouraged him to join the AA group of priests that meet on Monday nights. Also, at my request he agreed to call Father Foley and discuss the situation with him. He said that his doctor here in Milwaukee, Dr. [REDACTED], is still waiting for a report on the medicine that he is to be taking. This report is suppose to come from a doctor who has since left the Albuquerque Villa Treatment Center. He will discuss that matter with Foley also. The meeting was good. I told him that otherwise he was doing very good work there and that people liked him. These were not complaints as much as they were concerns for his health and well being. He seemed somewhat embarrassed and crushed but said that in all honesty he felt he was doing very good work. We both agreed that this was a beneficial meeting. Incidentally, I found out that he and Father Bob Gosma are extremely close friends.

4/20/81

Lanser, Jerome

Last Friday, Mrs. [redacted] called with a complaint against Lanser. She solicits prizes for parish events and had several pies stored in the Church basement freezer. Lanser very cordially transferred with them with her to his basement freezer about a week ago. This past Tuesday he called in a furious rage yelling and screaming at her over the phone to never put anything in his basement again. He went on and on to the point where her husband was going to come across the room and slam down the receiver. She said that he has been drinking in the last few weeks and she could smell the alcohol on his breath early in the morning. She advised that for further information I contact the parish secretary, Mrs. [redacted]. When I called Mrs. [redacted] she corroborated everything and added to it her own concerns for Father Lanser. As parish secretary she knows how he treats people and she said you never know what to expect. He can be extremely kind or he can be harsh and repulsive to people. She corroborated the fact that he is drinking although she has not seen him, she smells it on him quite frequently. When he is drinking, he is liable to act obnoxious.

6/28/81

0. Lanser, Jerome

I called Father Donald Weber and told him that I would like him to be the temporary administrator at St. Mary's Parish. He is willing but hopes this will not preclude his getting another parish assignment along the lines that he indicated earlier in the year. I told him he was not locked in to St. Mary's but that we saw him as being available and a person who could help salvage some of Lanser's reputation. I told him that when I told Lanser that Weber might be coming he was happy about that. Weber will begin on Friday, July 17. I told him Lanser should be permitted to keep some of his things there because he will be reassigned when he gets back from Albuquerque. Weber was hoping to move a lot of his things out of his residence which he hopes to sell. I told him that there was plenty of room at St. Mary's and that those details could be worked out later on. He also intended to bring his housekeeper and secretary but I told him that the parish secretary at St. Mary's was a necessary link to a smooth transition. Later, Deacon Famularo called me to say that he had assisted Lanser at Mass in the morning and that Lanser was doing well. He has begun to move some of his clothing out of the rectory for storage at the parish secretary's home.

7/14/81

1031. Lanser, Jerome

When I spoke to him today, he sounded very, very tired on the phone. He will leave for Albuquerque Villa on the 3 p.m. flight this Saturday. He will let me know if he wants me to inform his sister [redacted] Belgium, Wisconsin 53004, telephone: [redacted]. She in turn could inform all the other relatives that due to his health he needs further treatment in Albuquerque. In a rather trembling voice he asked if the Archbishop was angry at him. I said no, we are glad that you are cooperating in getting the treatment you need. Earlier I had spoken to Father Don Weber who visited Lanser yesterday in order to get information he will need for the transition. Lanser told me today that the meeting with Weber was good and that he thinks Weber will be a good man for the parish at this time.

7/16/81

██████████ called from Albuquerque Villa. She knows Lanser's case and has been in touch with Fr. Foley. When I indicated that Lanser has been drinking, she told me that Foley advises that he come immediately to Vista Sandia Hospital for detoxification and treatment that will last at least six weeks. I told her that because of the bad performance of Lanser, he was going to be relieved of his present assignment. She concurred that things did not work out there and that he was not good for the parish. They will try to work with him toward further recovery. Later I spoke to ██████████ who confirmed the fact that there were serious problems with Father's personality. He agreed to join me in confronting Father with this next week. I mentioned this to the Archbishop and he concurred that if treatment is effective an assignment other than a pastorate will be in order for Lanser.

7/1/81

1018. Lanser, Jerome

I met with him for almost three hours. During the first part of the meeting I confronted him with what I knew about his behavior in the last couple of months. When he asked for some concrete facts I gave him a couple of incidents which he thought I was blowing out of proportion. However, he did admit that he still was slipping when it came to his drinking problem. I told him of Father Foley's recommendation that he return to Albuquerque and of the decision that has been made to transfer him from St. Mary's Parish. He was upset with this but compliant. We spoke to Foley long distance and he counselled Lanser to return as soon as possible. Following the phone call, however, Lanser still did not accept the argument I presented about his behavior. He also asked to know where I got the information. This continued to the point where I asked if he wanted to meet with three people close to him who were willing to make him aware of how he was appearing to them and other parishioners. At first he didn't know if he should do this but then it best. The people came to the rectory within five minutes which surprised Lanser, but I told him that I asked them to be available if he so desired. These were ██████████ (Deacon), Mrs. ██████████, and Mrs. ██████████ (parishioner). The deacon and secretary are particularly close to Lanser and he trusts them very much. It was a surprise for him to hear their perceptions of him. They explained, however, that he really had prevented them from speaking openly to him about these personal matters in the past and they regretted they had waited so long to confront him. Mrs. ██████████ a little more distant, was not reluctant to tell him very candidly how she felt and how many other families in the parish felt. I could see that the light went on in Lanser's mind and he realized that his reputation in the community was beginning to suffer. After this meeting, Lanser asked me if he could stay until August 1. I told him he could not because of this confrontation and the ensuing anger or awkwardness that it would foist upon him. Besides that, we ran the risk of someone finding out about this and the whole parish knowing what was happening before Lanser was off the scene. He has made some personal plans with relatives up to August 1 which he would like to honor. I told him that Foley and I were suggesting that he get on the plane immediately for Albuquerque because the relatives would understand. He asked me continually if this was the Archbishop's wish and I told him that it was the wish of the Archbishop and myself. I asked Lanser to call my office within the next two days and that we would have flight plans and schedules for him. He seemed compliant when I left. Later in the evening the deacon called me to say that he had tried to look in on Lanser to see how he was doing but that his car was gone.

7/13/81

1047. Lanser, Jerome
He called from [REDACTED], Albuquerque, NM 87113.
Telephone: [REDACTED] He feels good but wondered what
we were going to put into the Herald Citizen about his transfer. I
told him since he was on a leave of absence his name would not be
placed in the Herald nor would Weber's as temporary administrator.
I told him if there were inquiries we would say that following the
recommendation of his doctor he is seeking a rest and medical care.
7/20/81

1138. Lanser, Jerome
I received a letter from him in which he states he is feeling better
and giving his new address at Albuquerque Villa. He said that
Father Foley and others would be contacting me with progress reports.
8/18/81

1200. Lanser, Jerome
Father Foley from Albuquerque Villa called to report that Lanser
is ready to come home and wondered about an assignment for him.
Lanser has agreed to resume injections of the drug depravera.
Their testing showed that this was the only way he could control
his unusual psychological drives. Foley wants him to return every
six months for a check-up. I told Foley of my fears that people
with whom Lanser had been associating with these past six months
might be exerting undue pressure on him even to the point of
blackmail. I said this surfaced from reports from Don Weber and
others about things that are being said at the parish. Foley
was surprised to hear this and said that he would confront Lanser
about all this. If that is the case, I told him that I didn't
think Milwaukee would be a good area for him to work in although
that is where he wants to be. Foley will call me the end of this
week to talk about this situation in more detail.
9/8/81

1215. Lanser, Jerome
Father Foley called from Albuquerque Villa to inform me that he had
confronted Lanser about his friends and the suspicion that maybe
one or more of them were holding something over his head even to
the point of extortion or blackmail. He vigorously denied this
and Foley was satisfied that he was being honest about the situ-
ation. That being the case, Foley saw no objection to reassign-
ing him in the Milwaukee area. Since he is ready to return and
since his brother is dying of cancer, I agreed that he could come
back and that I and the Personnel Board would work toward a re-
assignment this next week. Later in the day, Jerry called me
and we spoke about the same thing. I asked him not to go back
to Racine or to Pewaukee, and so he will stay with a relative
for a few days. On Wednesday following the Personnel Board
meeting I will speak to him about an assignment.
9/12/91

1229. Lanser, Jerome
He returned from Albuquerque and is staying at his sister's in
Belgium, Wisconsin [REDACTED]
9/15/81

1272. Lanser, Jerome

I met with him to discuss the possibility of his disclosing some of the nature of his problem to Dominiak for safety sake. He looks extremely well and is in good spirits. He has no problem discussing his alcoholic problem with Dominiak. He swears up and down that none of his former friends will be following him except the migrant worker whom he has known for many years and is very close to the rest of his family as well. He will tell Dominiak about that person and also he will tell Dominiak that if he has any questions about Lanser or his past he should speak directly to Lanser. Lanser will also tell him that he is under doctor's care for a nervous condition. I told Lanser that if Dominiak or anyone else came to me with questions of the same nature, I would ask them to discuss them personally with Lanser. I will suggest the same to the Archbishop.

10/7/81

1291. Lanser, Jerome

The Personnel Board found out that Lanser had been drinking before the funeral for his brother this past week. His classmates surrounded him at the altar and took over directing the liturgy as much as possible. Lanser would interrupt the liturgy with loud sobs and statements of personal grief. At one time he left the altar and went to the casket talking to himself and others about his deceased brother. Dominiak was present and afterwards confronted Lanser about this. Lanser admitted that he had been drinking and Dominiak thinks that it was basically due to the grief at his brother's death. Dominiak suggests that nothing be done at this point. I told Hornacek that I would discuss the matter with Foley because we have not received a report on his recent hospitalization or instructions for the aftercare.

10/16/81

1300. Lanser, Jerome

I spoke to [REDACTED] at Albuquerque Villa about Lanser's most recent slip from sobriety at his brother's funeral. [REDACTED] was quite upset and consulted with Father Foley and their psychiatrists. One of the psychiatrists called Lanser's doctor here on the local scene, Dr. [REDACTED] and found out that Lanser did not show up for his drug administration until this last week which means that Lanser voluntarily went off his drug for six weeks. In addition, the doctor at Albuquerque Villa told [REDACTED] that Lanser had been on antibus when he left Albuquerque Villa. Evidently, he went off this medication also. This explains the reason why Lanser returned to drink at the time of his brother's death. Their suggestion was that I get in touch with Dr. [REDACTED] and try to monitor Lanser's taking the proper medication. I will ask Dr. [REDACTED] to call me if Lanser does not show up for an appointment. [REDACTED] also suggested that Lanser be sent back to Albuquerque if any further incident arises. He thinks the key to the whole thing lies in Lanser's acceptance of the proper medication.

10/23/81

1342. Lanser, Jerome
I spoke to his doctor, Dr. [REDACTED] about the medication that Lanser is taking. It was agreed that if Lanser does not show up for his medication, Dr. [REDACTED] will call me for help in contacting Lanser. [REDACTED] understands the critical nature of this medication and is definitely interested in helping Lanser. I told him that the Albuquerque group wanted him to return every six months and even sooner if there was a breakdown. [REDACTED] proposed that in case of emergency he would hospitalize him at Elmbrook for detoxification and further treatment. [REDACTED] thinks this would be just as good as sending him back to Albuquerque.

11/2/81

1382. Lanser, Jerome
Dominiak called about parish business and in the course of the conversation noted how well Lanser is doing. He has been faithful to AA and is working hard at the parish.

11/13/81

119. Lanser, Jerome
Father Straub told me that he has been speaking to Lanser's sister who expressed some concern for her brother. She just doesn't feel right about the way he looks and behaves and suspects that maybe he is going into another depression. I told Straub I was going to check with his doctor.

2/3/82

148. Lanser, Jerome
I asked Dominiak how things were going, and by the way he began to answer I knew there was something wrong. He said that recently Lanser became rather reactionary and so Dominiak confronted him and asked him point blank when was the last time he had a drink. Lanser admitted that he had a couple recently and that he has skipped some of the AA meetings. Yesterday, Lanser supposedly went to his doctor for a shot for his nerves. He has not been attending the priests' AA group on Monday night and Dominiak thinks he should. I told Dominiak I wanted to talk to his doctor about this.

2/11/82

154. Lanser, Jerome
I contacted Dr. [REDACTED] to find out if Lanser has been following through with taking his medication. I informed [REDACTED] that Father Dominiak has some concern about this. [REDACTED] assured me that Lanser was complying with the schedule for his medication.

2/12/82

161. Lanser, Jerome
Father [REDACTED] called to say that he is concerned about Father Lanser. He has heard from other priests that Lanser is drinking again and notes that Lanser has not been showing up for the Monday night priests' AA meetings. Following [REDACTED] call I decided to set up an appointment with Lanser to confront him on this. In making the appointment I told him what the matter was about and he sought to reassure me that there was absolutely no truth to the idea that he had been drinking.

2/16/82

166. Lanser, Jerome
I spoke to Dr. [REDACTED] about my continuing negative reports on Lanser. I told him that we would confront Lanser on Friday. [REDACTED] agreed to assist if there was need.

2/17/82

ADOM017604

175.

Lanser, Jerome

At my request he met with Callahan, Dominiak, and myself to discuss his resumed drinking. He admitted that he had been drinking but claims that it was very little and ceased to exist at the present time. We got him to admit the need to resume meeting with the priests on Monday night and also to begin to use grape juice at Mass. I told him I had asked Father Wester to invite some members of his family to be present but none of them showed up. (Later on I found out that Wester had not extended the invitation. Their absence really disturbed Lanser.) Callahan suggested a follow-up program at De Paul which would help him monitor his progress and I suggested the use of anti-buse but it was felt that Lanser has enough determination and good will to make it this time with the reenforcement of AA. After the meeting Lanser asked to see me privately. For a long time he dwelt on his family and the fact that none of them showed up for the meeting. This bothered him and he asked who has accused him from among his family members. I told him to check with Wester for that information. He seemed overly disturbed about this.

2/19/82

176.

Lanser, Jerome

About noon I got a call from Dominiak saying that Lanser had been drinking. He found an empty bottle of Vodka in his room and knows that Lanser slept most of the night on the floor. Some members of his family has come to visit him Friday night and this may have set him off. I immediately contacted Dr. [REDACTED] who agreed to reserve a room at Elmbrook Memorial Hospital. [REDACTED] thought that he could get Lanser to cooperate in going in voluntarily. However, [REDACTED] called me back to say that Lanser had decided to think it over. [REDACTED] said that it would be possible for him to go in the next day if someone were to watch him that evening and make sure he did not go out. I told [REDACTED] to hold the room and that I would visit Lanser which I did with Callahan. Lanser had been planning to go out that evening to visit some people and also to officiate at a Baptism the next day. Callahan and I both advised against it rather strongly. After much discussion in the presence of Dominiak, Lanser gave up and agreed to go to Elmbrook. I drove him there and on the way he was sometimes bitter, sometimes his normal self. I could tell that he had been drinking. (The next day I ran into [REDACTED] who told me that the staff had quite a problem with Lanser that night and that he kept on telling them that he was gay.)

2/20/82

185.

Lanser, Jerome

Father Dominiak called to say that he heard Lanser is leaving the hospital after only a few days there. I was surprised until Dr. [REDACTED] called me later in the day to explain that he had discharged Lanser so that he could return to the parish for the beginning of Lent. I suspect Lanser talked him into this. [REDACTED] said that he had detoxified Lanser (and noted that Lanser had consumed a lot more alcohol prior to his admission than we thought) and had placed Lanser on anti-buse. The good doctor admitted that continuing effects of anti-buse would be contingent on Lanser himself applying the medication. Also he told me that Lanser had agreed to use grape juice at Mass. I would have like to have seen Lanser stay longer but the doctor felt that he had enough endocrination on the facts of alcoholism and all he needed was detoxification and the support of anti-buse. Time will tell.

2/23/82

ADOM017605

213. Lanser, Jerome
[REDACTED] is a counselor in alcoholism and has spoken to members of Lanser's family. She has referred them to Father Callahan for more advice and counsel. She is working for the Ozaukee County Council on Alcoholism.
3/3/82
207. Lanser, Jerome
Father Ray Callahan has agreed to counsel some members of the Lanser family about alcoholism and its effects on Father Jerome. Most likely he will do this at the De Paul extension in Port Washington.
3/4/82
969. Lanser, Jerome
I spoke to Father Gerald Dominiak about Lanser and asked him if Lanser had been drinking. Dominiak said that he sees Lanser every-day and has seen no evidence of this. Some time ago he found a bottle in Lanser's room and challenged him immediately, but Dominiak feels that Lanser is maintaining sobriety and is attending his weekly AA meetings faithfully.
10/24/83
1075. Lanser, Jerome
He called to say that he would like to take some time off and return to Albuquerque Villa for a visit. He said that everything is going well but he feels the need to travel back there. He said that he would return by the end of November and that this would be counted as vacation time.
11/11/83
1031. Lanser, Jerome
Mr. [REDACTED] called on behalf of Mrs. [REDACTED]. They accuse Lanser of having an affair with Mrs. [REDACTED] husband and because of that she feels the marriage is irretrievably broken. She is going to appear in court on November 28 and will bring this whole matter to the court. Rather than discuss such a matter over the phone, I suggested that we sit down and discuss it at greater length. She agreed to do this soon.
11/12/84

I met with Mrs. [REDACTED]

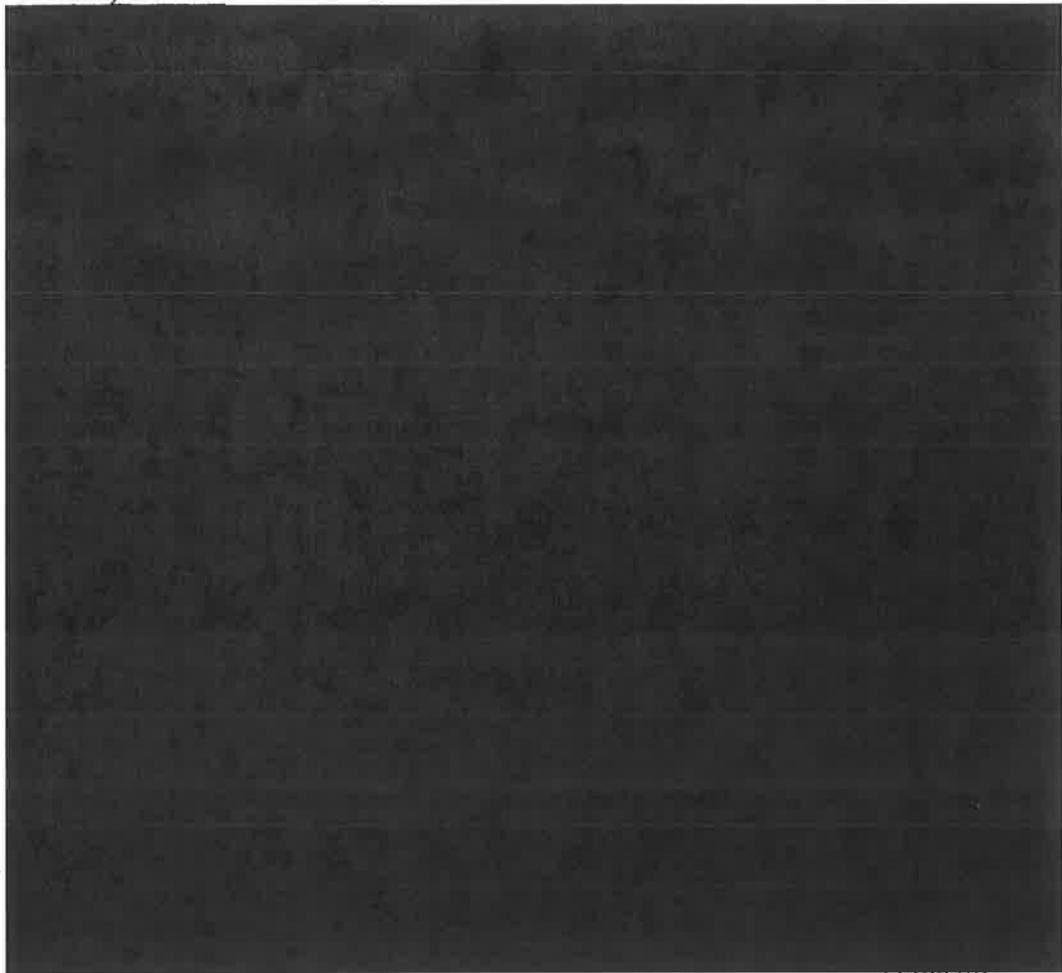
[REDACTED] We met at St. Elizabeth Rectory where she gave me a signed statement alledging that her husband, [REDACTED], is a homosexual who has had an affair with Father Lanser over the past eight-year period. Now her husband is suing her for a divorce and for the custody of their children. He claims she is an unfit mother although she said she is not because the children are well taken care of and are in school every day. She thinks he wants to obtain the custody of them so that he will have access to some of the welfare money that supports them. She claims that she has several witnesses that will corroborate her story about her husband and Father Lanser. She also claims that her husband is alcoholic and that many time she has seen both of them drunk. She will be in court in November 28 (Family Court), and she intends to obtain a lawyer from the legal aid society to help her fight this. She is willing to bring all of this sorted story out into the open if necessary ([REDACTED] is Mr. [REDACTED] attorney). I told her I could do nothing for her as far as her marriage was concerned and the divorce suit. However, I said I would follow up with Father Lanser and see where he is at in all of this and I would show him the statement that she presented me with. She agreed to that and felt that the Church needs to know so that it can do something to correct the behavior of its priests. She is a very simple person, but I did not detect any insincerity on her part. She said that her friend, Mrs. [REDACTED], has told her that her husband and Father Lanser are seen everyday at a playground in the area sitting in the car together. I am going to get together with Lanser now and see how he is doing and see what he has to say about all of this.

11/13/84

1073. Lanser, Jerome

At my request he came to see me and I showed him the complaint that was made recently by Mrs. [REDACTED]. Lanser categorically denied the implication of the complaint. He admitted that he does know the family and that they have had problems even before he got to know them. He felt as though he was being good to both Mr. and Mrs. [REDACTED] by helping them with food and clothing and also by taking them and the children on picnics in the past. He was floored at the suggestion that he continues to see Mr. [REDACTED]. He has been in touch over the phone from time to time with him but absolutely denied that there is anything going on between the two of them. Lanser admitted that [REDACTED] was one of the persons that used to visit him at St. Mary's Parish in Pewaukee, but he stated that this was not the man with whom he was involved before he went to Albuquerque Villa. Lanser told me that he continues to maintain sobriety, attends the Monday night AA meetings and feels as though he is doing well. (I noted throughout the whole thing that Lanser looked well and that his explosive anger did not surface at all during this meeting which had to be very traumatic for him.) Mrs. [REDACTED] friend, Mr. [REDACTED] did touch base with Lanser a few days ago about the meeting today, but Lanser still did not know what it was all about. I told Lanser that I believed him and I knew that he would not be foolish enough to risk not telling me the truth at this point and letting it come out in the future. I told him that if [REDACTED] called me again, I would tell her 1) that Lanser tried to help her and her husband and the children financially and supportively in other ways, 2) Lanser does not know where she lives and where the children go to school, 3) the family had problems before he even got involved, and 4) his duties at the parish prevent him from being involved in the situation as she claimed. I suggested to Lanser that he might want to talk to an attorney and gave him Joe Dean's name if he wanted to seek his advice. I told Lanser I would support him in his denial of these allegations. He appreciated that. 11/21/84

ADOM017607



1095.

29. Lanser, Jerome
On Monday, January 12, 1987 I met with Jerome at St. Hyacinth's in order to discuss the various rumors circulating in St. Roman's Parish. Jerome assured me that no arrest has occurred during the past four years and confesses to be totally perplexed by the ongoing rumor regarding his activity in the parked car. I said I would seek a discrete review of police records in Kenosha and contact Jerry Dominiak regarding the origins of some of these rumors which may have been brought to his attention prior to his reassignment at Thiensville.

RJS

245. Lanser, Jerome
On Tuesday, May 12, 1987 Jerry called to express a desire for reassignment, probably as a pastor, and to seek the wisdom of our office in such a move.

RJS

1124. Lanser, Jerome
On Tuesday, November 22, 1988 Jerry called asking whether he would be supported if he applied for a pastorate in the Archdiocese next spring. I stated that if there were no conditions recommended at the conclusion of his treatment, I would endorse such a request, especially since I learned that he had been extremely faithful to AA meetings. On Wednesday, November 23, 1988 I raised the issue with Joe Janicki who could not see any problems with such a move.

RJS

11. Lanser, Jerome

On Thursday, January 5, 1989 I called Jerry to again express my support, especially in view of his fidelity to AA meetings, for his application for a pastorate should he find an opening attractive in the diocese. He expressed a desire to remain in the Milwaukee area because of the value he attaches to the Monday AA meeting of priests and promised to remain in discussion with Tom Trepanier.

RJS

244. Lanser, Jerome

On Friday, March 10, 1989 in the name of the Archdiocese I signed Jerry's contract with Franciscan Villa in South Milwaukee.

RJS

684. Lanser, Jerome

On Thursday, June 29, 1989 [REDACTED] called to express some concerns regarding Jerry's life style. I suggested that he address those issues with Jerry directly.

RJS

267. Lanser, Jerome

On Wednesday, April 25, 1990 two parishioners met with me to express their concern regarding issues of sexuality and public demeanor.

RJS

689. Lanser, Jerome

On Saturday, August 25, 1990 I spoke with Jerry regarding some of the gossip stemming from his association with a young woman who has followed him from St. Roman's to St. John's Parish and cautioned him in that regard.

RJS

234. Lanser, Jerome

On Saturday, February 23, 1991 Jerome called to report that he had given someone a ride to Cudahy or South Milwaukee on Friday evening, February 15, 1991 after which he was robbed in the rectory and his car stolen. Jerome acknowledged that a sexual advance had been rebuffed promptly in that context and that the reference was contained in the police report immediately filed that same evening. Because a member of the Board from Franciscan Villa allegedly heard or surmised the latter dimension, the temporary administrator of the nursing home, Mr. [REDACTED] stated that he would personally report the matter to Archdiocesan authorities and requested Jerome to do the same. At Jerome's request, I promised to call Mr. [REDACTED] in order to verify that the report had been made.

RJS

332. Lanser, Jerome

On Sunday, March 24, 1991 Jerome called to say that he had received a phone call the prior evening from Milwaukee Detective James Klisch, alerting him to the fact that a certain [REDACTED] old white male, had been reported to the police as seeking to harm Father Lanser. The Detective stated that the matter was turned over to the South Milwaukee Police for enhanced temporary protection of the rectory pending further investigation. I encouraged Jerome to call the South Milwaukee Police Station in order to cooperate in every way possible during this time and to contact our office if there were any further developments.

RJS

357. Lanser, Jerome

On Thursday, March 28, 1991 I spoke briefly with Mr. [REDACTED] Administrator of Franciscan Villa Nursing Home in South Milwaukee, to assure him that the concern about Father Lanser's ministry seemed to be groundless in view of the police report as I understood it.

RJS

221.

236.

277.

297.

335. Lanser, Jerry

On Monday, April 20, 1992 Jerry Lanser called to inform me that he had talked to his attorney, Gerald Boyle and that, attorney Melita Boese informed him she plans to proceed with a lawsuit against Jerry in the case of [REDACTED] Jerry said he has not been able to sleep well the past 5 months and all this is affecting his ministry. He said when this is all over he wants to leave the state. He sounded very down and I offered whatever help I could give.

RTV

ADOM017610

395. Jerome Lanser
On July 8, 1992 I spoke with Jerome and encouraged him to appeal his denied Chaplaincy Certification. I also spoke with Tom Venne that same day and suggested a letter of recommendation if needed.
RJS
544. Lanser, Jerome E.
On August 10, 1992 Jerome Lanser called to inform me that his attorney Gerry Boyle had called, and the threatened lawsuit was to be filed this week by Atty. Melita Beire on behalf of [REDACTED]. This lawsuit has been threatened before. Jerry said he didn't know how much longer he could go on with his ministry with this threat always there. He was awaiting a call from Gerry Boyle.
RTV
587. Lanser, Jerome E.
On August 21, 1992 an article in the 8/21/92 Milwaukee Sentinel referred to allegations against a priest that was at St. Mary's Menomonee Falls in the 1960's. We have not received any copy of the lawsuit as of 12:00 noon. I spoke to Jerome Lanser, and he had not seen the newspaper article or received any lawsuit. I called Joe Janicki at St. Mary's and he had received the lawsuit. I also spoke to Gerald Boyle, and he had not received anything. He had not talked to Jerome since the filing. He again expressed concern about legal fees for our priests. I told him I would be happy to discuss this some time.
RTV
590. Lanser, Jerome E.
On August 22, 1992 I received a call from Jerome Lanser that he had still not received a copy of the lawsuit and had an early afternoon appointment with his attorney Gerald Boyle. I called Joe Janicki and he made a copy for me to bring to Jerome. Joe showed me a copy of a statement which was to be read at all the Masses, since St. Mary's was named in the Milwaukee Sentinel article on 8/21/92. I suggested a change from having given the lawsuit to their insurance company to having given it to the Archdiocese for the appropriate response. I asked Joe to send us a copy of the statement. We received this on 8/24/92.
RTV

599. Lanser, Jerome E.

On August 26, 1992 Jerome Lanser called to inform us that he received the lawsuit on August 25, 1992. I suggested that some Professional Counseling might be helpful for him at this time, and he was open to doing so. I told him we would support him in this in whatever way we could. We discussed [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] as possible resources.

RTV

666. Lanser, Jerome

On September 19, 1992 Jerome Lanser called and was concerned that he had not heard anything from his attorney Gerry Boyle and a response to the lawsuit was due. Gerry's secretary had told him that they have an extension. I told Jerry I would check with Matt Flynn about our response.

RTV

793. Lanser, Jerome

On October 29, 1992 at the request of Archbishop Weakland I informed Jerome Lanser that he should contact his lawyer Gerald Boyle and inform him that we advised Jerry Lanser to tell the Nursing Home administrator and Joe Anderson of the allegations against him. I informed him the press have copies of the lawsuit. Jerry said he could tell Joe now but the Administrator was out until Monday. I told him to inform him as soon as possible. I told him I had talked to Matt Flynn concerning this and if Gerald Boyle has any questions, she should contact Matt Flynn.

RTV

941

[REDACTED]

RTV

945. Lanser, Jerome

On December 10, 1992 we received a call taken by Mary Kay Balchunas from Mr. [REDACTED] Administrator of Franciscan Villa Nursing Home. He received a report that Jerome Lanser had been "overly friendly" with young black males at the facility. According to the report Jerome asked one of the men to try on some clothes and had "touched him". Mr. [REDACTED] talked to Jerome about this and indicated Jerome did not deny any of the actions that were reported to him. Mr. [REDACTED] wanted to know if there were any previous charges against Jerome. Mr. [REDACTED] was going to call Bishop Sklba. I spoke to Bishop Sklba who had not talked to Mr. [REDACTED].

[REDACTED]

RTV

961. Lanser, Jerome

On December 15, 1992 I met with [REDACTED] the Administrator of Franciscan Villa Nursing Home. At this time I informed him of the lawsuit that had been filed with allegations against Jerome Lanser. He explained what had happened between Jerome Lanser and an adult young man [REDACTED]

Mr.

[REDACTED] had a personal meeting with the young man and was assured that there had been no improper touching. However, Jerome had the young man try on some clothes and his conversation and other times the friendliness of Jerome made him uncomfortable. [REDACTED] met with Jerome who did not deny his imprudent behavior, and realized it might have been interpreted differently than he had intended. On 12/18/92 I met with Jerome Lanser to inform him that I had told [REDACTED] of the lawsuit against Jerome and that [REDACTED] had informed me of the incident [REDACTED] I told him that there was concern about his continued employment on the part of the Nursing Home Administration and also on the part of the Archdiocese because of the public knowledge of the lawsuit. I told him I would meet again with [REDACTED] and talk to Archbishop Weakland, so we could make a decision fair to all parties. I would get back to him. On 12/9/92 we received a letter from Matt Flynn informing us the trial in [REDACTED] vs. Lanser has been set for 5/23/94.

RTV

976. Lanser, Jerome

On December 21, 1992 I met with [REDACTED], who in conversation with his Administration, did not feel that Jerome's imprudent behavior was a reason for termination. They did agree on several points including a paid leave in January during which he would attend a workshop on sexual harassment and meet regularly with his therapist. Also he was not to have contact [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], [REDACTED] Since we were meeting at the Cousins Center, I asked Archbishop Weakland to meet with us. It was agreed to have Jerome see his therapist, Dr. [REDACTED] during his paid leave. I called Dr. [REDACTED] and he agreed to assist us during this time and give us his evaluation of Jerome. On 12/22/92 I met with [REDACTED] and Jerome Lanser to inform Jerome of the decision to give him the paid leave in January to meet Dr. [REDACTED] and the other conditions. He was also free to take some vacation in agreement with the needs of Dr. [REDACTED]. We would meet in early February to discuss the evaluation by Dr. [REDACTED], talk to Jerome's lawyer, Gerry Boyle, and make a decision that would be respectful of everyone. Jerome is willing to cooperate with this.

RTV

6. Lanser, Jerome

On January 4, 1993 Jerome Lanser called to say that he had informed Joe Anderson of the allegations and lawsuit. Gerry Boyle and I spoke of this and Gerry Boyle called him. Jerome Lanser also said he signed a consent form for release of his records to Dr. [REDACTED]. Jerome will see Dr. [REDACTED] and Gerry Boyle and be on vacation from Jan. 12-22. Joe Anderson called me on the suggestion of Jerome Lanser. He said Jerome did inform him and Joe said that Jerome does not have any contact with minor children at the parish.

RTV

25. Lanser, Jerome

On January 7, 1993 I received a message from Andy Nelson that he had been informed that the young man alleging abuse by Jerome Lanser is a danger to Jerome's life. He was going to contact Jerome. On 1/8/93 Jerome called me to say that Andy Nelson had contacted him with this information. Jerome was surprised Andy knew about the lawsuit. I told Jerome the person that called Andy probably informed him of this. Jerome did notify the South Milwaukee Police Dept. Jerome will be out of town Jan. 12-22.

RTV

✓28. Jerome Lanser

On January 21, 1993 I called Jerome to see how he was doing in Tom Venne's absence and to seek a meeting the following week when we could discuss his current situation and future.

RJS

✓40. Jerome Lanser

On January 25, 1993 I met with Jerome to offer personal support. I underscored the fact that whatever the future held we could work through it together on a day by day basis. I noted the span of possible scenarios and asked that he stay in conversation with us for any future developments. He gave an initial report of his weekly meetings with Dr. [REDACTED]. I indicated the probability that the Sisters may prefer to make a new arrangement for Chaplaincy services at this time, in spite of what the Administrator of the Nursing Home may have indicated. Subsequently, after consultation with the Archbishop I contacted Jerome to reiterate the virtual impossibility of his continuing the assignment in view of developments. He also submitted a list of the dates at which he has been meeting with Dr. [REDACTED] on a weekly basis. On Wednesday evening, January 27, 1993 I again spoke with Jerome and advised him of the fact that he will probably be asked not to remain at the Nursing Home assignment by the Administration.

On January 27, 1993 I had an additional conversation with Jerome in which I stated that the possibility of his returning to the Chaplaincy at South Milwaukee seemed very minimal because of the Administration's decision. I encouraged him not to have false hopes as the result of any statements which [REDACTED] may have made to him the prior week.

RJS

✓74. Jerome Lanser

On February 4, 1993 I met with Jerome in order to formulate a plan for terminating his Chaplaincy at the South Milwaukee Franciscan Home in view of all the circumstances currently impinging on his ministry, namely the lawsuit, the threat of physical violence, the ongoing investigation by the media, the concern of the sponsoring group and some of the community concerns because of recent events. We agreed that he would be allowed to say a final Mass at St. John's Parish in South Milwaukee on Saturday, February 6, 1993 and a final Eucharist at the Nursing Home on Sunday, February 7, 1993 with no further public sacramental celebrations for the time being. At Jerome's request I called Sr. Kathleen and asked that she delay sending the Paraclete report to Dr. [REDACTED] until Jerome had the opportunity to review that information. I also spoke with [REDACTED] who agreed to meet with Jerome later that same day and communicated the basic information to Fr. Joe Anderson at the Parish as well that same day. I called Dr. [REDACTED] office to be assured of prompt professional care as needed.

RJS

37. Lanser, Jerome
On February 8, 1993, I met with Jerome Lanser. Jerome told the staff at Franciscan Villa that he would not be continuing ministry there. In discussing finances Jerome said that he would get two months more salary from the Villa for vacation time and continuing education that he did not use. Jerome took a copy of a report from the Servants of the Paraclete from 1981 to give to Dr. [REDACTED]. Jerome said he was going to notify the local parishes that he would no longer be at the Villa, so they would be aware, if the Sacrament of the Sick was called for. Les Darneider will continue to offer liturgies at the Villa. Jerome is concerned that he cannot celebrate Mass publicly and the length of time between now and his court date in May of 1994. I informed Tom Darrow that Jerome Lanser would no longer be in the chaplain position at Franciscan Villa on February 9, 1993. Tom Darrow received a call from John Peterson the Business Manager at Franciscan Villa regarding the unusual situation of Jerome seeking payment for the vacation time he had not used. This situation was not available to other employees. I told Tom Darrow that this was determined in a discussion between Jerome and Roger DeMark. I called Roger De Mark and informed him of the call to Tom Darrow from the Business Manager. Roger would speak to the Business Manager to clarify his agreement with Jerome.

RTV

93. Lanser, Jerome
On February 22, 1993 Jerome Lanser asked to have his mail from the Chancery be changed from Franciscan Villa to his residence at St. John's, South Milwaukee. He also asked if he should follow through now that his appeal for applying for certification with Catholic Chaplain Association had been accepted. I told him I would discuss this with Dick Sklba and get back to him. Jerry said he has begun to take some classes at Sacred Heart Monastery and St. Francis.

RTV

131. Lanser, Jerome
On March 2, 1993 I met with Jerome Lanser. He is trying to use this time for studies, especially Scripture at Sacred Heart and St. Francis. Because classes were in mid-semester he has not been able to become part of most of them. Sacred Heart has one class he can audit. He would like to continue living at St. John's in South Milwaukee. He will see me about his compensation, when the Franciscan Villa completes payments to him for his vacation time.

RTV

178. Lanser, Jerome
On March 15, 1993 I met with Jerome Lanser to discuss his compensation beginning April 1. The Franciscan Villa compensation will cease at that time. Jerome also shared his ongoing visits to Dr. [REDACTED] and wants to know if they should continue. He also told [REDACTED] that he did not feel the need at this time. Dr. [REDACTED] has asked him to write an AfterCare Program and gave him some guidelines to prepare his AfterCare Program. I also asked Jerome if he had discussed with Gerald Boyle about a possible settlement in his case, so it would not continue until May 1994 court date. Jerome said he is innocent and wants to have a trial to prove his innocence.

RTV

768. Lanser, Jerome
On August 16, 1993, I called Jerome Lanser to inform him that the appeal to dismiss his lawsuit had been changed to 9/27/93, because the judge assigned to the case had retired. I received this information from Matt Flynn.

RTV

888. Lanser, Jerome
On September 28, 1993 we received a letter from Matt Flynn that on 9/27/93 Judge Gram had dismissed the Jerome Lanser/ [REDACTED] case based on the statute of limitations. I called Jerome to inform him.

RTV

895. Lanser, Jerome
On September 30, 1993 I received a report from Dr. [REDACTED] regarding his therapy with Jerome Lanser.

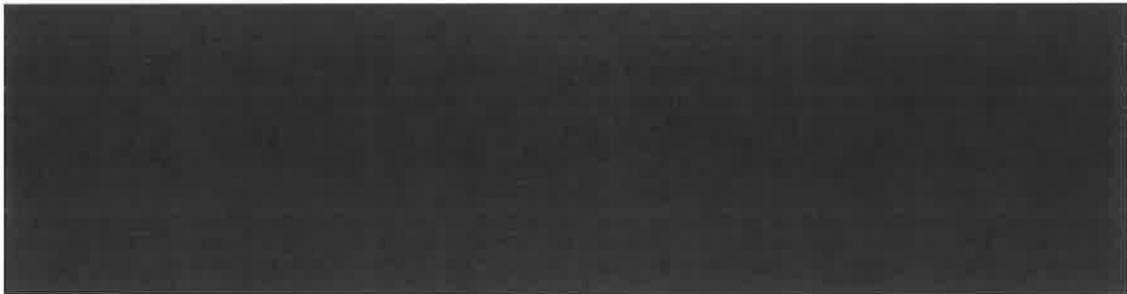
RTV

✓620. Jerome Lanser
On October 15, 1993 in a meeting with Archbishop Weakland I learned that the Archbishop had decided that Jerome should not engage in any Sacramental ministry until all the appeals concluded.

RJS

948. Lanser, Jerome
On November 2, 1993 I called Jerome Lanser to see if Gerald Boyle's office had called him. They have been in contact with him and a court date for dismissal on 10/26/93 had been rescheduled. He has no further information. He said he did meet with Archbishop Weakland and was not to do public ministry during this time of appeal.

RTV



39. Lanser, Jerome
On January 11, 1994, I received a call from Jerome Lanser, who wanted to know if we had received anything further regarding his case. I told him no new materials had come to us, but I would send him copies of the first letters we had stating the case had been dismissed. He had not received anything from Gerald Boyle, except a phone call informing him.

RTV

650. Lanser, Jerome
On June 6, 1994, I received a call from Jerome Lanser requesting permission to concelebrate with [REDACTED] and the [REDACTED] family reunion, of which Jerome is a part. The Mass will be at St. Mary's, Belgium, but not a scheduled Liturgy. I also confirmed permission for him to be celebrant for his nephew's wedding at St. Mary's, Random Lake on July 23, 1994. Jerome said he had not heard from Matt Flynn for about a month and Matt had promised to call. I told him that I had not received anything further, but know Matt had court date the next two weeks.

RTV

823. Lanser, Jerome
On July 25, 1994, I received a call from Jerome Lanser, who said his case was in the appeal process. Our attorneys have 30 days from July 9 to appeal. If this appeal for dismissal is not accepted, it would go to another judge in 3-6 months. He had questions regarding his compensation also, especially the retirement supplement and housing and food allowance. I shared with him the amounts that were approved.

RTV

837. Lanser, Jerome
On July 29, 1994, I called Jerome Lanser to inform him that he would not be given permission to concelebrate the Wedding of a friend at St. Mary's, Menomonee Falls.

RTV

170. Lanser, Jerome
On March 16, 1995, I had lunch with Jerry Lanser. He seemed very angry and defensive. The only purpose of the meeting was to listen, to support and affirm. He gave me a therapy bill which I gave to Sr. Kathleen.

CCS

210. Lanser, Jerome
On April 26, 1995, Jerry Lanser called to inform us that Archbishop Weakland gave him permission to concelebrate a Funeral Mass on 4/26/96.

CCS

387. Jerome Lanser
On May 25, 1995 I received a phone call from Jerome inquiring about the possibility of doing some Eucharistic services at Visitation Convent in Elm Grove in a fashion similar to the ministry provided by Richard Nichols. On May 27, 1995 I was able to consult the Archbishop and we concluded that such a decision should more wisely be postponed until after the meeting and conversation toward the end of June. On May 30, 1995 I communicated this information to Jerome.

RJS

✓532. Jerome Lanser

On July 7, 1995 I spoke with Jerome, reiterating the rationale for the ministerial restrictions recently communicated and encouraging a movement out of the parish and into activities that would be more humanly healthy for long range living.

RJS

163. Lanser, Jerry

On June 11, 1996 Jerry and I met to discuss his future. He wondered whether he might celebrate his niece's wedding and a brother's funeral.

CCS

182. Lanser, Jerry

On July 3, 1996 I called Jerry Lanser after consultation with Archbishop Weakland. The Archbishop thought it would be permissible for Jerry to celebrate his brother-in-law's funeral and the wedding of his niece, since the celebrations had to do with his family and not any parish as such. We discussed his court situation and he had many questions I couldn't answer. I told him it didn't seem unreasonable for him to call Matt Flynn for clarification.

CCS

✓823. Jerome Lanser

On August 26, 1996 in response to a pressing phone call from Sr. Clarence Marie, a member of the pastoral team of the Notre Dame facilities at Elm Grove [REDACTED], I indicated the impossibility of utilizing Fr. Lanser as a Chaplain to the Sisters at this time in history.

RJS

✓339. Jerome Lanser

On May 11, 1997, after conversation with the Archbishop, it was agreed that Jerome would have faculties to concelebrate at the funeral Mass for Carrol Straub scheduled for May 13, 1997 at St. Killian Parish in St. Killian with the other stipulations of his restrictions remaining in place

RJS

78. Lanser, Jerome

On June 5, 1997 Fr. Lanser called to inquire about his compensation for next year. Since he no longer lives in the rectory in South Milwaukee, but rather now is purchasing a house with another individual, his housing needs exceed what he had been receiving from us. He estimates his need to be \$450/mo at this time. I assured Fr. Lanser that I would get some figures for him and he will call me on 6/23/97 for the information. I suggested that, for now, Fr. Lanser put his request in writing for Tom Kerstein.

SKS

96. Lanser, Jerome

On June 18, 1997 I received a letter from Jerome Lanser in which he provides me with information relative to his Housing Costs. He explains that while he lived at St. John's in South Milwaukee, his housing allowance was \$350/mo. This amount has not been changed, although he moved out of that rectory 10/1/96. He states: "As of October 1, 1996, I live at [REDACTED], in a house that I co-own. My portion of the monthly mortgage payment is \$450.00 per month (\$5,400.00 per year). My other Qualified Housing Costs, as outlined on Appendix C of the new Priests' Compensation Program, amount to approximately \$430.00 per month (\$5,160.00 per year). I will be presenting this information to Tom Kerstein in the first few days of July in order to finalize the financial information needed for the Finance Office for the new fiscal year.

SKS

✓ 531. Jerome Lanser

On July 10, 1997 questions were raised about Jerome's living circumstances, subsequent to his move from St. John's Rector and the salary scale paid by the Archdiocese during this time of transition.

RJS

64. Lanser, Jerome

October 7, 1997 - Jerry Lanser called to ask for permission to concelebrate the Funeral Mass for his classmate in Eau Claire. I granted permission for him to concelebrate that one Mass for this funeral only. Father James Hagmann's funeral is in Sacred Heart Church, Eau Claire, on October 8, 1997.

TFK

204. Lanser, Jerome

August 19, 1998 - I consulted Bishop Sklba for advice on whether or not we should continue paying the Continuing Education amount (\$500) for Jerome Lanser. We reviewed all the individual situations in the same "no faculties" and "Not Assigned" category as Fr. Lanser. I explained to Bishop Sklba that for the past several years, Fr. Lanser has specifically requested coverage for this allowance and the Vicar for Clergy agreed to provide it. However, at this time, and upon this review of similar situations, Bishop Sklba decided that, in all fairness, we are not able to provide this for Fr. Lanser. I sent a letter to Fr. Lanser today to inform him of this.

SKS

312. Lanser, Jerome

On October 13, 1998 is phoned to ask him to come in and sign the Settlement Agreement and Mutual Release regarding claims made by [REDACTED] Lanser requests copy of the agreement and permission to concelebrate Mass 10/18 for 150th Anniversary of home parish, St. Mary's, Lake Church.

JFH

319. Lanser, Jerome

On October 14, 1998 Jerome is denied permission by archbishop to concelebrate Mass at St. Mary's, Lake Church on 10/18 occasion of 150th.

JFH

323. Lanser, Jerome

On October 16, 1998 Jerome is in to sign settlement agreement and mutual release paper regarding [REDACTED] Lanser is also told that the Archbishop said he could not concelebrate the 10/18 liturgy at Lake Church. Lanser said he was already listed in the Catholic Herald as a concelebrant but did not know how that happened. He simply told Don Schmidt he would be there.

JFH

505. Lanser, Jerry
July 12, 1999 Jerry is seen while stopping by to pick up materials from Clergy Office. He is asked about his health. He states he is anxious (I noticed mild tremors in his hands initially, then he relaxed) and used to see Dr. [REDACTED] but no longer does. He is asked to provide a copy of his tax record to help Vicar monitor clergy income of some of our priests on diocesan payroll. He reports he receives about \$1,000 a year doing odd jobs for a Bill Shea. He purchased a house and celebrates Mass there. He reiterates his claim to innocence of past sexual abuse allegations.

JFH

879. Jerry Lanser
October 3, 2000 Jerry is urged to write a letter to the archbishop requesting retirement now that he is 68, so that he can begin to collect pension and social security, thereby reducing any subsidy from the archdiocese. He asks about ability to concelebrate funerals of family members and is told to request permission from Vicar for each occasion.

JFH

918. Jerry Lanser
October 12, 2000 Jerry sends copy of letter to Archbishop initiating his retirement at request of Vicar. He also sends copy of death notice for [REDACTED] who made false allegations Lanser contends against him.

JFH

570. Jerome Lanser
July 17, 2001 In the absence of the Vicar and in response to the Bill Kohler's request, I reviewed the file of Jerome Lanser relative to restrictions and permissions to say Mass. Barbara Anne signaled the possibility that a family member is dying and that the individual's wish is for Jerry to have the funeral. I recited a summary of requests and permission and denials logged since 1994 for Bill Kohler's consideration as he reviewed the file.

KS

576. Jerome Lanser
July 18, 2001 Bill Kohler received information from Barbara Anne Cusack regarding Jerry Lanser indicating that Archbishop denied permission for Jerry Lanser to have family funeral. Bill Kohler advised that any requests that come in heretofore should be routed directly to the Archbishop.

KS

626. Jerome Lanser

On August 22, 2002 I received an inquiry from Jerome Lanser seeking information about plans to publish the names of offenders, and again insisting that he was innocent of all charges.

RJS

812. Jerome Lanser

August 26, 2002 Vicar receives copy of Jerome Lanser's letter to Bishop Skiba stating he is completely innocent of the sexual abuse charges made against him at the start of October '91. He gives several reasons for his declaration of innocence and therefore hopes his name will not be included in the list of priests with past credible allegations of sexual abuse.

JFH

700. Jerome Lanser

On September 25, 2002 in the context of preparing a birthday greeting for Jerry's 70th Birthday on September 26, 2002, I recalled a recent report that he was currently employed part-time as a driver and associate for one of the major funeral homes in the Milwaukee area.

RJS

Amy Peterson

To:

Subject:

information

Dear

I tried calling with no success. I understand you have been struggling since coming forward. The diocese received a signed order from the bankruptcy judge to be able to offer therapy again. We received the order on Monday. So, if you are able to find a therapist that you will be comfortable with, please let me know and I can help set up the payment arrangements and explain the process with you. I would call the agencies I gave you and although they are run by men, they might have a list of therapists, some who may be female that specialize in the trauma you experienced.

In terms of filing a claim with the bankruptcy court. A process is being developed for individuals to do so. It will be publicized when finished. I don't know when that will be. You can also contact the firm of Jeffery Anderson, if you need the number again, let me know. They are representing a lot of victims in the bankruptcy.

Please call me if I can be of any other assistance. I want you to get the help you deserve.

Best Regards,
Amy Peterson
Victim Assistance Coordinator
Archdiocese of Milwaukee
414-758-2232

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

Date Report Taken: March 23, 2011

Time: 3:00 pm

Phone In Person

Received By: Amy Peterson

Person Reporting: [REDACTED]
Phone Number: [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED]

Allegations made by:
(if not same as above)

Name:
Address:
Phone:

Date of Birth: [REDACTED]
Age at time of
Allegations: Thirteen, Fourteen

Allegations Against: Fr. Jerome Lanser
Time Period: 1971-1973
Where: St. Leo's Parish, Milwaukee, WI
Reported: (Previously? To Whom?)

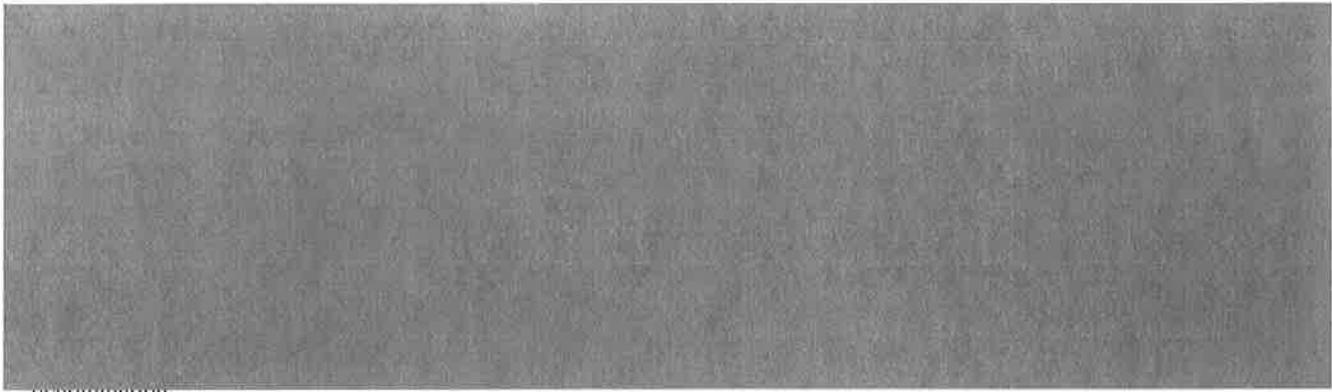
Alleged Abuse:

When he was twelve/thirteen years old, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
From then on for the next few years, [REDACTED] was befriended by Sister Christine and Sister Susan from St. Leo's School. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Sister Christine invited [REDACTED] to
Mass on Sundays. They introduced [REDACTED] to Fr. Jerome Lanser.
[REDACTED] stated that Lanser invited him into his office in the first couple of months of
their acquaintance, and that Lanser would close the door and engage in conversation that had nothing to do with the work that
needed to be done. He would come up behind [REDACTED] and put his hand on [REDACTED]'s neck and shoulder. [REDACTED] reported
remembering how strong his grip was. [REDACTED] said that when Lanser wanted him to do a job, he would call [REDACTED]'s mother
and she would send him over to the parish.

[REDACTED] stated that after a couple of months of helping out, Lanser escalated in his physical contact. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Lanser gave [REDACTED] the box and then came up behind
[REDACTED] blocking the door, and tried to undo [REDACTED]'s pants. [REDACTED] stated that he had to fight Lanser off and that Lanser
was really strong. [REDACTED] said there were at least eight or nine occasions, most in Lanser's office but one in the basement where
Lanser sexually assaulted him. They would get into wrestling matches and it would get rough because [REDACTED] would try to fight
Lanser off. [REDACTED] reported that Lanser was very strong and always grabbed him by the neck and shoulders. [REDACTED] had a
hard time getting away also because Lanser would bolt the office door shut. [REDACTED] stated that over time, approximately a year
and a half, there were eight or nine assault incidents and that Lanser's behavior escalated from rough grabbing and trying to get
into [REDACTED]'s pants to Lanser taking off his clothes and trying to take off [REDACTED]'s pants. [REDACTED] stated that he didn't
want to go back to the Parish and help out but Lanser would call his mother and she would make him go. [REDACTED] reported that
he couldn't tell his mother why he didn't want to go back. He also tried to tell Sr. Christine but is unsure whether or not she
understood what was happening to him.

History:

[REDACTED]



denomination.

Next Steps:

[Redacted]

[Redacted] In the meantime, VAC will try to locate services in his area that offer a sliding fee scale.

[Redacted] will contact VAC for support as needed.

- Archbishop Jerome E. Listecki Rev. William Kohler (Curia)
- Rev. Patrick Heppel (Clergy) Rick Tank (Non-Cleric) Barbara Anne Cusack
- District Attorney

Intake form
AP/Revised 9/16/2010

July 15, 2002



RE: 

Dear Provider:

On behalf of the Bishop, I have offered payment of outpatient psychotherapy expenses by the Archdiocese of Milwaukee for . This response is an expression of our genuine concern for this individual, without liability attached. It is my understanding that you have a treatment relationship with this person.

The Archdiocese of Milwaukee wishes the best available therapy to be provided for the healing needed at this time. I work with a multi-disciplinary Professional Mental Health Review Committee that meets four times a year and assists with overseeing the quality of treatment which we reimburse. In order to start the process, please return the enclosed three attachments:

1. Release of information
2. "Declaration by Professional Mental Health Provider"
3. Treatment plan

The Project Benjamin Fee Schedule is as follows:

50 - 60 minute psychotherapy session	\$100 for licensed psychologist
	\$ 90 for licensed clinical social worker

The client should not receive any billing.

We request quarterly updates on treatment progress and will send you the appropriate form. We will notify you of authorization after the Committee meets and determines that the treatment is professional and appropriately matched to client needs.

Please feel free always to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have. Our intention always is to encourage and support healing and recovery.

Sincerely,

Barbara Reinke, Ph.D.
Director, Archdiocesan
Response to Sexual Abuse

BR:saz
Enclosures

November 16, 2006



Dear Jerome,

As you are aware, I was recently advised by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith that I could proceed with an administrative penal process to resolve the allegations against you. Having received a report from your doctor about your fragile physical health and having received a petition from you with supportive documentation from your canonical advisor, I took the matter to my advisors.

Provided you continue to abide by the stringent restrictions that have been placed upon you, namely that you do not exercise any public ministry and do not present yourself in public as a cleric by either attire or title, I would allow you to live out the rest of your life in prayer and penance. You will continue to remain in contact with Deacon David Zimprich to ensure that these restrictions are being observed. Any indication that they are not would then result in initiating a formal process against you.

Despite everything else, I do pray for your health and well being. I hope you are able to incorporate your current physical suffering into the prayer and penance that must be an integral part of your life.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "+ Timothy M. Dolan".

Most Reverend Timothy M. Dolan
Archbishop of Milwaukee

cc:



ADOM043438



CONGREGATIO
PRO DOCTRINA FIDEI

00120 Città del Vaticano,
Palazzo del S. Uffizio

7 July 2006

PROT. N. 446/04-22747
(In responsione fiat mentio huius numeri)

CONFIDENTIAL

Your Excellency,

I write regarding the case of the **Reverend Jerome E. LANSER**, a priest of your Archdiocese who has been accused of sexual abuse of minors and concerning whom Your Excellency has requested dismissal from the clerical state *ex officio*.

After having carefully examined the present case, especially Your Excellency's *votum*, it was noted that the alleged delicts are bound by prescription and that the said priest, while admitting that the acts of sexual misconduct occurred, denies that any of the alleged victim was a minor at the time. For these reasons the Congregation has decided that it would be more appropriate to proceed by way of an administrative penal process in this case. Consequently, this Dicastery grants a derogation from the law of prescription and authorizes Your Excellency to initiate an administrative penal process as outlined in can. 1720 of the *Code of Canon Law*. Your Excellency is therefore kindly requested:

- 1) to inform the accused of the allegations and the proofs, while affording him the opportunity, via his canonical advocate, of a proper defence;
- 2) to evaluate accurately all the proofs and the evidence with the assistance of two assessors who are competent and renowned for their prudence;
- 3) to issue a decree in accordance with cc. 1342-1350 *CIC* if the delict can be proven with certainty. The decree should contain the reasons *in iure et in facto*.

If, as a result of this process, Your Excellency is still of the opinion that the accused should be *dismissed from the clerical state* or have some other *perpetual penalty* imposed upon him, you are requested to refer the matter to this Congregation. Should a decree imposing such a penalty be issued by this Dicastery *in Congressu Particulari*, the accused would have the right to present recourse to the Ordinary Session of the Cardinal and Bishop Members of this Congregation (*Feria IV*).

./.

His Excellency
The Most Reverend Timothy M. DOLAN
Archbishop of Milwaukee
3501 South Lake Drive
Milwaukee, WI 53207-0912, U.S.A.

ADOM043441

However, before proceeding with the above-mentioned penal process, Your Excellency should approach the cleric in order to ascertain his position regarding submitting a voluntary petition for a dispensation from the obligations of Sacred Orders including celibacy.

Alternatively, since Rev. Lanser is currently experiencing serious health problems and considering also his advanced age, this Dicastery does not exclude the solution outlined in n. 8 b of the *Essential Norms*. Your Excellency is authorized in this case, if you should judge it appropriate, to apply such *Norms* and direct the cleric to live a life of prayer and penance with the possibility of celebrating Mass privately. That disciplinary measures should be reinforced by penal precept.

I take the opportunity to offer Your Excellency my sincere respects and I remain,

Yours devotedly in the Lord,

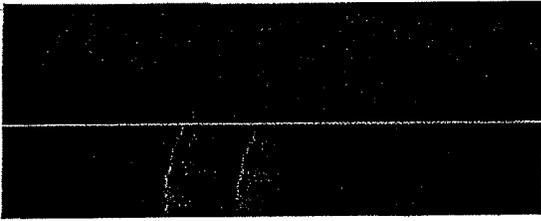
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Amato', with a small asterisk to the left of the first letter.

✠ Angelo AMATO, SDB
Titular Archbishop of Sila
Secretary

September 15, 2006

BNC

MOST REV. TIMOTHY P. I



SEP 18 2006

SEP 18 2006

Dear Archbishop Dolan:

At the direction of my Canon Lawyer, J. Michael Ritty, J.C.L., Ph. D., I am writing to ask you to be able to remain in the priesthood, continuing to live my life in prayer and penance.

Sincerely yours,

Rev Jerome E. Lanser
Rev. Jerome E. Lanser

ADOM043443



CONGREGATIO
PRO CLERICIS

Vatican City, 7 May 2011

Prot. No. 20111247



Dear Father Lanser,

This Congregation writes in regard to your hierarchical recourse concerning the decision to terminate the payment of your insurance premiums.

The Dicastery herewith attaches its Decree in the matter.

With assurances of prayers and cordial best wishes, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

✠ Celso Morgia Iruzubieta
Titular Archbishop of Alba marittima
Secretary

1 Enclosure



COPY

CONGREGATIO PRO CLERICIS

DECREE

Prot. No. 20111247

1. Whereas the Rev. Jerome Lanser remains a cleric incardinated in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee;
2. Whereas by letter of 31 August 2010 of the Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, the Rev. Lanser was informed of the decision of the Ordinary to terminate the payment of his insurance premiums for Medicare Advantage, Dental and Vision Coverage and the benefit of the Health Reimbursement Account, effective 1 October 2010;
3. Whereas on 21 September 2010 the Rev. Lanser presented a *remonstratio* to the Ordinary, asking that the decision to terminate this assistance be revoked;
4. Whereas on 22 October 2010, through his lawfully mandated canonical Procurator, J. Michael Ritty, the Rev. Lanser presented hierarchical recourse to the Congregation for the Clergy;
5. Whereas the stated object of this recourse was that the Congregation “rescind the decision of Bishop ListECKI [sic], and direct Bishop ListECKI [sic] to continue to provide the payment of insurance premiums for Medicare Advantage, Dental and Vision coverage and the benefit of the Health Reimbursement Account”;
6. Whereas the universal law of the Church indicates that suitable provision is to be made for the social welfare of clerics, such as they may need in infirmity, sickness, or old age (c. 281 §2);
7. Whereas an Ordinary is free to determine the most suitable means available in order to meet the obligations of c. 281 §2;
8. Whereas the Ordinary, judging it opportune to meet the obligations of this canon through a variety of means while taking into account the differing situations of individual clerics, has decided to fulfill the obligations of c. 281 §2 in respect to the Rev. Lanser through other avenues, including the obtaining of governmental and other forms of charitable assistance;
9. Whereas it is the judgment of the Ordinary that the Rev. Lester is not thereby “being left destitute or incapable of meeting his health care and living needs”, and the Ordinary has furthermore assured the Congregation of his continued vigilance that the obligations of c. 281 §2 will continue to be met with respect to the Rev. Jerome Lanser;

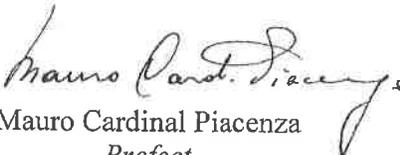
THEREFORE:

This Dicastery decrees

that the Hierarchical Recourse as presented against the decision of the Ordinary of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, U.S.A., to discontinue payment of insurance premiums for Medicare Advantage, Dental and Vision coverage, and the benefit of the Health Reimbursement Account, is hereby rejected both *in procedendo* and *in decernendo* as lacking basis in law and in fact.

Recourse against this Decree made be made to the Supreme Tribunal of the Apostolic Signatura in accord with the norm of law.

**Given at the Seat of the
Congregation for the Clergy
7 May 2011**


Mauro Cardinal Piacenza
Prefect



+ 
Mons. Celso Morgia Iruzubieta
Titular Archbishop Elect of Alba Marittima
Secretary

Prot. No. 20103597

January 11, 2011

His Eminence, Mauro Cardinal Piacenza
Congregation for the Clergy
Piazza Pio XII 3
00193 Rome, Italy

Your Eminence:

I write in response to your letter of December 15, 2010 in the above captioned matter. Your letter refers to a Reverend Jerome **Lester**. We have no priest by that name. From the content of the letter, I presume that the issue is that of Reverend Jerome **Lanser** and I will provide additional information on that basis.

In 2004, Archbishop Timothy Dolan, my predecessor, submitted Father Lanser's case to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith in accord with the norms of *Sacramentorum sanctitatis tutela*. In 2006, the Congregation authorized Archbishop Dolan to conduct an administrative penal process due to the gravity of the allegations of sexual abuse of minors by Father Lanser. Prior to the initiation of that process, the Archbishop was notified of Father Lanser's precarious health situation. He determined to suspend the canonical processes and order Father Lanser to lead a life of prayer and penance.

Regarding Father Lanser's financial condition, he continues to receive the full pension benefits of a retired priest of the archdiocese and is qualified for state-issued medical coverage, thus fulfilling the requirements of canon 281, §2. The additional support that was being provided by the archdiocese was over and above ordinary insurance. To the best of my knowledge, Father Lanser has partial ownership of his residence and the woman who is his caretaker and has lived with him for many years also shares in his household expenses. Therefore, his pension and Social Security benefits have been deemed sufficient for his ordinary living expenses.

As I worked with our legal counsel anticipating the possibility of bankruptcy over the last several months, we reviewed the entire financial picture of the archdiocese. We also studied the situation of other dioceses which had resorted to this drastic measure under the crushing weight of the financial burden that clergy sexual abuse of minors had created. In one diocese the Church was severely criticized for asking the court to allow continued payments of special benefits to priests removed from ministry because of sexual abuse of minors. In light of all of these factors, it was determined that ordinary pension benefits would continue for retired priests but that for some, who had been removed from ministry as a result of their own actions, additional special benefits could no longer be supported. This is Father Lanser's situation.

ADOM043456

His Eminence, Mauro Cardinal Piacenza
Congregation for the Clergy
p. 2

I am not sure whether the Congregation has the additional information that archdiocesan personnel continue to provide pastoral and spiritual support to Father Lanser and as recently as last week made a pastoral visit to assess his situation. Archdiocesan personnel also assisted him in obtaining the zero-premium additional insurance that is available through the government when additional coverage through the archdiocese was no longer being provided.

It came as a surprise to me that the Congregation was unaware of the financial difficulties being experienced by the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. The Quinquennial Report which is cited indicated that, because ordinary income had not changed significantly over the years under examination but expenses had increased, it had become more of a challenge to balance the annual budget. It was not reported that there was any difficulty in providing for the ordinary support of clergy because there was no such difficulty then nor is there now. As was reported in 2004, retired priests are provided a monthly pension payment funded from a qualified pension plan. These payments are adjusted regularly. In addition, there is a monthly retirement benefit from the government if they paid into the system and a subsidized medical coverage from the government.

In reviewing the files I have also noted that in August 2006 the Congregation was informed of the potential for bankruptcy for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee under the burden of sex abuse lawsuits filed in the State of California. While we were able to avoid that drastic measure at that time, as you know from my most recent correspondence, this is no longer the case.

If this response is not sufficient and we are advised that Father Lanser should receive special benefits, I will be forced to resume the administrative penal process to attempt to sever our canonical relationship with him. He would still receive the same pension if this dismissal were the outcome of the case.

With sentiments of esteem, I am,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Jerome E. Listeki

Most Reverend Jerome E. Listeki
Archbishop of Milwaukee

ADOM043457

Rev. Jerome E. Lanser

Albuquerque Villa

Albuquerque, New Mexico
87105

Albuquerque, New Mexico
87105

Monday, October 15, 1979

Most Reverend Rembert G. Weakland, O.S.B.
Saint John Cathedral
802 North Jackson Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

Dear Archbishop Weakland,

First of all, I really want to thank you for returning that phone call during that specially hectic week. I realize that you had participated in a funeral earlier that day, and that you were preparing to go to Chicago, Washington D.C., and to Kansas City. Thank you, again for your time and concern.

As you might recall I had been planning to get to Chicago for the Holy Father's Mass on that Friday, and also to a niece's wedding at Holy Hill on the following day, a Saturday. However, my primary purpose was to have a visit with you. Since that was not possible, I cancelled the entire trip.

However, I am still planning to get to Milwaukee in the not too distant future, and I will check with your secretary or with you personally for an appointment. I will do this a few weeks in advance.

As you know I am helping out part time at the University of Albuquerque, formerly the Saint Joseph's College of Albuquerque. It is located on the northwest side of the city, about twelve miles from the Villa. Having my car here is a real advantage.

In speaking with Father Michael Foley just the other day about many things, he did mention that he would be writing to you about my progress and the date of release. From what I know for and from myself, I feel that I have made tremendous progress, and I trust that all those involved with my special treatment will substantiate this. At least they tell me that I am getting along just fine. It has been a long and somewhat trying experience, but I am sure, worth it.

While I am enjoying the work with the University Students, Staff and Faculty, I really still prefer parish work. Also while the climate is a bit milder in the Southwest, I am really looking forward to returning to the Milwaukee area, to my family and friends.

Sorry you did not receive an earlier letter that I sent to you. This letter to you as well as a few others to family and friends must have gotten lost or stolen. I mention this to you so that you might know that I have tried to keep in touch with you, besides the regular reports from Father Foley.

Not so incidentally, I really enjoy your articles in the CATHOLIC HERALD CITIZEN. I share them with Father Foley and other priests and brothers. I always feel so proud to tell others that you are my Archbishop. You are well known and respected.

With a prayer, and please continue your prayers for me.

Sincerely, In Christ,

Jerry

Typing is not the best; I did it myself!

ADOM043507



CONGREGATIO
PRO CLERICIS

Vatican City, 15 December, 2010

Prot. N. 20103597

The Most Reverend Jerome Listecki
Archbishop of Milwaukee
3501 South Lake Drive
P.O. Box 070912
Milwaukee, WI 53207-0912
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Your Excellency,

This Congregation has received a request for hierarchical recourse from Rev. Jerome Lester, a cleric incardinated in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. Rev. Lester informs the Dicastery that he is living a life of prayer and penance, and that he was recently informed by the Vicar for Clergy that as of 1 October 2010 he would no longer be receiving "charitable assistance" in the form of payment of insurance premiums for Medicare Advantage, dental and vision coverage, as well as the benefit of the Health Reimbursement Account.

It is not clear to the Congregation if Your Excellency is aware of the termination of benefits to Rev. Lester, and if Your Excellency concurs in such termination. The Dicastery therefore kindly asks for Your Excellency's own opinion, as well as any relevant information which may help to shed light on this matter. Of particular interest would be an explanation as to how the above mentioned insurance benefits are applied to the priests of the Archdiocese in general, and how these benefits can to be considered as "charitable assistance" in the case of Rev. Lester, and not as an obligation of the Archdiocese, according to the norm of c. 281 §2. It does not seem that he has been dismissed from the clerical state, and thus c. 1350 §1 would appear to be operative.

Furthermore, the Congregation is surprised to learn from the letter of the Vicar for Clergy that the Archdiocese of Milwaukee is experiencing financial difficulties. The last information which the Dicastery has received concerning the financial status of the Archdiocese was in conjunction with the last *ad limina* visit in 2004, in which there was no indication of any difficulty in providing for the clergy. Given its competence in this area, the Congregation would be most appreciative if Your Excellency would send an updated report which highlights the financial difficulties of the Archdiocese. Lastly, the Dicastery would call to Your Excellency's attention the priorities for the use of ecclesiastical goods, as established in c. 1254 §2, noting that the support of the clergy ranks second in importance only to divine worship.

I take this opportunity to renew my sentiments of esteem and with every best wish, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,


Mauro Cardinal Piacenza
Prefect



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
Milwaukee County

JOHN T. CHISHOLM · District Attorney

Chief Deputy Kent L. Lovern, Deputies James J. Martin, Patrick J. Kenney, Lovell Johnson, Jr., Jeffrey J. Altenburg

April 5, 2011

Chancellor Barbara Cusack
Archdiocese of Milwaukee
3501 S Lake Dr
PO Box 070912
Milwaukee WI 53207-0912

Re: Complaint of [REDACTED]

Chancellor Cusack:

I have reviewed the report regarding the alleged sexual assault of [REDACTED] by Father Jerome Lanser. Based upon the information in the Sexual Abuse Intake Report, and assuming that the reported assaults are true, prosecution of Fr. Lanser would have to have commenced within six years of the assaults—at the very latest, by June 19, 1979. At this time, prosecution is barred by the statute of limitations. If you have any questions, please call me at 278-4662.

Thank you,

Paul Tiffin
ADA

- William J. Molitor
- Donald S. Jackson
- Gale G. Shelton
- Gary D. Mahkorn
- David Robles
- Cynthia G. Brown
- Norman A. Gahn
- Steven H. Gamm
- Mark S. Williams
- John M. Stoiber
- Thomas L. Petter
- David Feiss
- Rayann Chandler Szychlinski
- Carole Manchester
- Kenneth R. Berg
- Warren D. Zier
- Timothy J. Colter
- Carol Berry Crowley
- Steven V. Uicata
- Brad Vorpahl
- Paul Tiffin
- Miriam S. Falk
- Phyllis M. DeCarvalho
- Dennis P. Murphy
- Bruce J. Landgraf
- Denis J. Suring
- Janet C. Protasiewicz
- DeAnn L. Heard
- Patricia A. McGowan
- Irene E. Parthum
- Karen A. Loebel
- Ronald S. Dague
- Lori S. Koblum
- Karine O'Byrne
- Maria Dorsey
- James W. Frisch
- Kurt B. Benkley
- James C. Griffin
- William P. Pipp
- Joanne L. Hardtke
- Christopher A. Liegel
- Megan P. Carmody
- Laura A. Crivello
- Shawn Pompe
- Kevin R. Shomin
- Beth D. Zirgibel
- Karen A. Vespaiec
- Mark A. Sanders
- Paul C. Dadinsky
- David T. Malone
- Kelly L. Hedger
- Rachael Stencel
- Mary M. Sowinski
- Kathryn K. Sarner
- Daniel J. Gabler
- Sara P. Scullen
- T. Christopher Dee
- Jacob D. Coir
- Joy Hammond
- Katharine F. Kucharski
- Elisabeth Mueller
- Grant I. Huebner
- Stephan Eduard Notten
- Michele Ackerman Havas
- Jennifer K. Rhodes
- Claire Stalling
- Zach Whilney
- Rebecca A. Kiefer
- Matthew J. Torberson
- Katryna L. Childs
- Anthony White
- Antoni Apollo
- Nicole D. Loeb
- Erin Karshen
- Lucy Kronforst
- Michael J. Lonski
- Paul M. Hauer
- Sara Beth Lewis
- Aaron E. Hall
- Jenni Spies
- David M. Stegall
- Amanda Kirdelevski
- Benjamin Wesson
- Renee Heintz
- Karl P. Hayes
- Holly L. Bunch
- Jacob A. Manlan
- Heather M. Placek
- Megan M. Williamson
- Dewey B. Martin
- Sarah Sweeney
- Christopher J. Ladwig
- Kimberly D. Sikorski
- Nicole J. Sheldon
- Dax C. Odom
- Maureen A. Atwell
- Christopher W. Rawsthorne
- Rachel E. Sattler
- Jennifer L. Hanson
- Patricia I. Daugherty
- Marissa L. Santiago
- Meghan C. Lindberg
- Jon Neuleib
- Ann M. Romero
- Brian Sammons
- Peter M. Tempelis
- Matthew G. Puthukutam
- Jeremiah C. Van Hecke
- Edward L. Wright
- Randy Sitzberger
- Karyn E. Behling
- Kristin Shimabuku
- Douglas R. Martin
- Kasey M. Deiss
- Nicolas J. Heilman
- Chad Wozniak
- Estee E. Hart
- Kristin M. Schrank
- Claire E. Trimarco
- Francesco G. Mino
- Jane Christopherson
- Tyrone M. St. Junior
- Hanna R. Kolberg
- Joshua M. Mathy
- Joan O. King
- Antonella Schildgen
- Cynthia M. Davis
- Kristin Redding
- Jessica A. Ballenger

DIOCESE	Milwaukee
NAME OF ORDINARY	Timothy M. Dolan
CDF PROT. N. (if available)	
NAME OF CLERIC	Jerome E. Lanser

PERSONAL DETAILS OF THE CLERIC	Date of Birth	██████████	Age	██
	Ordination	May 31, 1958	Years of ministry	31
ORIGINAL DIOCESE OF INCARDINATION		Milwaukee		
MINISTRY IN/TRANSFER TO OTHER DIOCESE		Albuquerque (during treatment)		
CONTACT ADDRESS OF THE CLERIC		██████████		
PROCURATOR (include original signed mandate)		None submitted		
CONTACT ADDRESS OF THE PROCURATOR				
ASSIGNMENTS				
Year	Parish	Location	Appointment	
1958	St. Peter Parish	Beaver Dam, WI	Assistant Pastor	
1964	St. Mary Parish	Menomonee Falls, WI	Curate	
1969	St. Margaret Mary Parish	Milwaukee	Assistant Pastor	
1971	St. Leo Parish	Milwaukee	Pastor	
1975	St. Leo Parish	Milwaukee	In solidum team administrator	
1976	Sacred Heart Parish	Racine, WI	Pastor	
4/1979	Resigned / Unassigned			
12/1979	St. Mary Parish	Pewaukee, WI	Administrator	
8/1981	Sick Leave			
9/1981	St. Roman Parish	Milwaukee	Associate Pastor	
1989	Franciscan Villa Nursing Home	South Milwaukee	Chaplain	
1993	Unassigned			
2000	Retired			

ADOM043582

ACCUSATIONS AGAINST THE CLERIC				
Year	Victim	Age	Imputable Acts	Denunciation
1964-1969	██████████	8-13	Genital fondling; oral sex	1992
1960's	██████	15(?)	Not specified	1993
1971-1974	██████████	13-16	Rape	2002
1973	██████	15	Genital fondling	2002
1970's	Anonymous	?	Not specified	2002
1970's	Anonymous (brother above)	?	?	2002
CIVIL PROCEEDINGS AGAINST THE CLERIC				
Year	Type/Case	Conviction	Sentence (include copies of civil documents)	
1993	Civil suit; dismissed due to expiration of statute of limitation			
1998	Civil suit resolved with out of court settlement			
MEASURES ADOPTED BY THE DIOCESE				
Year				
1976	Sent for residential alcohol rehabilitation (Hazelden); alcoholism presumed to be causing sexual behavior			
1979	Sent for long term residential treatment with Servants of the Paraclete (Albuquerque)			
1981	Sent again to Servants of the Paraclete (Albuquerque) after relapse; treatment with Anti-buse and Depo-Provera begun			
1981	Ongoing outpatient counseling; AA meetings; he does not remain faithful to drug therapy with lapses involving adult males			
1993	Requested to cease voluntarily all public ministry; public sacramental ministry only with prior permission			
1995	Formal precept issued restricting public ministry			
SUSTENANCE PROVIDED BY THE DIOCESE TO THE CLERIC				
During the time he was unassigned and prior to reaching the eligible age for pension, Father Lanser was provided a modified income (from \$1,400 to \$1,900 / month), a housing allowance (from \$500 to \$700 / month); health and dental insurance; payment into his pension fund. Upon retirement, he has received the benefits of any other pensioned priest. Such benefits will continue until death as it is a state qualified pension plan. He also has obtained secular employment with a funeral home for added income.				

RESPONSE/RECOURSE MADE BY THE CLERIC

Year	
1976-1979	Admits to alcohol abuse and sexually inappropriate behavior (does not admit to abuse of minors)
1992	Denies allegations brought forward in law suit

BISHOP'S VOTUM

Due to the repeated nature of the acts and the failure to control behavior, *ex officio* dismissal or administrative laicization is deemed appropriate



March 5, 1979

Most Rev. Rembert G. Weakland, O.S.B., D.D.
345 North 95 th Street
P.O. Box 2018
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201

Dear Archbishop Weakland,

This concerns Rev. Jerome Lanser who is presently in the Winter module of our program here at the Villa. I will be sending progress reports to you on a monthly basis and Jerry has asked that these be sent to you. He has signed and had witnessed a release form for this report and your name is the only name that appears on that form. It is my obligation to advise you of this, especially with the confidentiality suits that are creeping into our profession these days.

I really have very little to tell you about Jerry, as he has been with us only one month. I do not believe that he has worked out within himself the time that he spent at Via Coeli and also believe that he holds me responsible for that time. I am not concerned about his holding me responsible but think that he needs to deal openly with these feelings. I am not sure that he is aware of the severity of the charges that were being brought against him and what some other possible solutions were in terms of handling a case of this type.

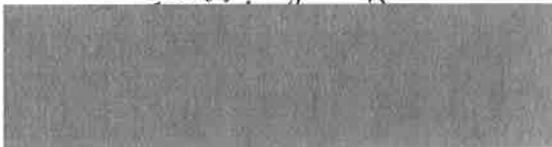
It is my opinion that he is a person who gives you two different messages about almost every subject and it is up to you to guess just which one carries the authenticity. This is something that I have noticed in him as being predominant over the past few weeks and have asked him to consider as part of his communication. He admits that this is an issue with him.

I believe that the sexual areas of his life are serious and feel that he is dealing with these in a most honest way. This is not only my impression but that also of the whole therapeutic staff. I find him a person who is willing to work and he is most cooperative in all of the sessions. I believe that there is also some scare in him and feel that this indeed is justified.

I would not want to give you a time span for the treatment at this point. I would hope that he would be able to deal with the issues that are complicating his life at this point in a five month module but would not want to guarantee that to either you or Jerry. I will probably be able to say more about this in next month's report.

I thank you again for giving us the opportunity to serve the Archdiocese in ministering to one of their priests. I would ask that you remember us at prayer and those with whom we share our ministry.

Sincerely,



Jerry just requested to go home for the wedding of a nephew on May 5th - at St. Peter's Ch. Port Washington -

I do not want to deny the permission from this end but I do not feel that I am in a position at this time to grant it -

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to be "M. J. ...", written over a horizontal line.



copy \$ F Paul Ened

April 16, 1979

Most Rev. Rembert G. Weakland
P.O. Box 2018
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201

Dear Archbishop,

The following are some impressions and observations that we have about the progress of Rev. Jerome Lanser.

Jerry has now been in the program for over two months and has continued to display his willingness to deal with the problem for which he was initially sent to us in the latter part of last year. It is not possible to make a person change their sexual identity without doing what I would consider violence to their person, so our aim is to help people discover their commitments and live their lives according to those commitments which they have made. I believe that Jerry is beginning to understand this and see him making a sincere effort whereby he can once again become a happy, productive person both in his own eyes, which is primary, and in the eyes and hearts of those to whom he is called to serve.

Whenever one enters a program of this type and there are serious problems at the surface then many times other issues arise during the process of treatment. This seems to be happening in Jerry's case and we are dealing with these issues with him. If I could say one thing about him at this point in time, it would be that he is willing to probe into his life and see wherein he can grow as a person. I am fully aware of the personal pain that he has undergone as we explore these issues with him but he has been able to risk that to discover more about himself.

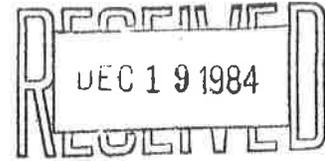
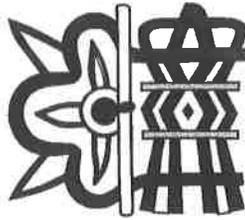
It would be premature of me to give you a prognosis at this point in time or even to give you a discharge date. I would ask for your patience as we continue to explore his life with him.

✓ The issue of his car has come up again and again. I have no objection to him having a car during his stay with us but would feel better if someone would bring it to him.

I thank you for the opportunity to once again serve the Archdiocese and for the trust that you place in our Staff and the program.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to write or call.

Sincerely,



December 18, 1984

Reverend Joseph A. Janicki
Vicar for Priest Personnel
3501 S. Lake Dr.
Milwaukee, WI 53207

Dear Reverend Janicki:

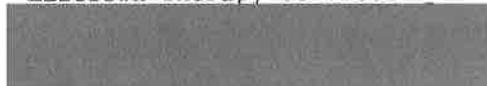
Thank you for the referral of Father Jerome Lanser. As of December 20 he will have been seen for five sessions during this month and will next be returning to see me after the new year.

We seem to be working very well together. Depression is beginning to clear to an extent that I believe he soon may will be surprised at how good and whole he is beginning to feel. However, I am sure there are still areas that we need to focus on and then perhaps even come back to. Sometimes in a case like his, premature termination is brought about by the patient. If at some point I believe this is happening I will certainly inform you of it.

A blessed Christmas and New Year to you and us all.

Sincerely,

EastTown Therapy Services



[Redacted], M.D.
Medical Director

EastTown Therapy Services

[Redacted] Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202 [Redacted]

EastTown Therapy Services is the tradename for Milo G. Durst M.D., S.C.

ADOM043689

LANSC

SENTINEL AUG. 21, 1992

Community digest

By Sentinel staff writers
and correspondents

MENOMONEE FALLS

Man sues over alleged assaults

A Menomonee Falls church was sued Thursday by a man who alleged to have been sexually assaulted by a priest.

The suit said that the man, who is now in his mid-30s, was assaulted by a priest in the sacristy, basement, and grounds of St. Mary's Congregation, N89 W16297 Cleveland Ave.

The incidents began in 1964, when the victim was eight, and continued until about 1969, the suit said. The youth was a student at the church school at the time of the assaults, the complaint said. The priest named in the suit is listed in the complaint as a resident of a South Milwaukee nursing home.

The suit seeks unspecified damages. Officials with the church and the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, which was also named in the suit, could not be reached for comment.

ADOM043701

**Entry for the Sexual Abuse Log
by Liz Piasecki**

October 15, 1997

Today, I received a call from Kathy Walter, supervisor in the Department of Probation and Parole in the Department of Corrections. She was reporting that Father Jerome Lanser once again called her to intervene on behalf of Mr. [REDACTED] who is a convicted sex offender being held in custody for possible revocation for parole and probation violations. Kathy is concerned that Father Lanser, who himself is unassigned due to allegations of sexual misconduct, is acting inappropriately in the defense of another sex offender, and she wished the Archdiocese of be made aware of this. I told Kathy that I would notify the Vicar for Clergy about Father Lanser's behavior.

ECP:saz

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AOM SUPP 002709

ADOM055447

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



May 19, 1998

Melita M. Biese, Esq.
Murphy, Gillick, Wicht & Prachthausen
1 Plaza East
330 East Kilbourn Avenue
Suite 1200
Milwaukee WI 53202

Re: [REDACTED] v. Archdiocese of Milwaukee

Dear Ms. Biese: *Melita*

Enclosed as you have previously discussed with Dr. Elizabeth Piasecki of the Archdiocese is a Settlement Agreement and Mutual Release. Please have your client execute it, and return it to me. I will then give you a check in the amount of \$2,746.50, as described.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Yours truly,

QUARLES & BRADY

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Matt Flynn".

Matthew J. Flynn

MJF:pr

Enclosure

WHEREAS, [REDACTED] further alleges that the Archdiocese and St. Mary's may be liable for the actions of Lanser that gave rise to the alleged claims; and

WHEREAS, Lanser, St. Mary's, and the Archdiocese deny liability for the claims, and there is a dispute between the parties; and

WHEREAS, the parties to this Agreement wish to settle and compromise all claims of [REDACTED] against Lanser, St. Mary's, the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Milwaukee, and all of St. Mary's and the Archdiocese's employees, agents, officers, directors and assigns, including, without limitation, all priests and members of the Roman Catholic clergy and all parishes and religious orders and their members, and any person or entity affiliated with the Roman Catholic Church in the territory of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, arising from the alleged abuse of [REDACTED] by Lanser without the necessity of formal litigation and expense, 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 Settlement Agreement, including, but not limited to, any claims for sexual contact or abuse of any nature between Lanser and [REDACTED]

11

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises herein provided and other valuable consideration, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, the parties to this Agreement hereby agree as follows:

1. Lanser, St. Mary's and the Archdiocese jointly agree to give to [REDACTED] a check made payable to Dr. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] therapist, for the total sum of \$2,746.50, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged. All parties will bear their own costs and attorneys' fees associated with this settlement.

2. In return for the payment in paragraph 1 above, and for the mutual promises contained herein, and for other good and valuable consideration, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, [REDACTED] agrees to release and forever discharge Lanser, St. Mary's, and the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Milwaukee, and all of St. Mary's and the Archdiocese's employees, agents, officers, directors and assigns, including, without limitation, all priests and 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 any assault, injury, whether physical or mental, or any other activity by Lanser.

3. St. Mary's, Lanser, and the Archdiocese hereby release and forever discharge [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 Settlement Agreement.

4. [REDACTED] agrees that he will not reveal to anyone, other than as may be mutually agreed to in writing, any of the specific terms of this agreement or any of the amounts, numbers or terms and conditions of any sums payable to the claimant hereunder. [REDACTED] hereby understands and agrees that this confidentiality section of the agreement is of paramount importance and that observance of this confidentiality section is of the essence to the agreement achieved between the parties. He agrees to abide by the terms of this confidentiality section as consideration for and as an integral part of the agreement.

5. As a condition precedent to the payment of the sum set out in paragraph 1, [REDACTED] hereby agrees not to disclose to any third-party, including, without limitation, any newspaper, any electronic media, any reporters, and any other individual, or to release for publicity any of the allegations which have been made against Lanser, St. Mary's , and the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, or the terms of this Agreement. The terms of this agreement relating to confidentiality do not apply to any disclosures made to [REDACTED] therapist, support person (as that term is used in AODA treatment) or close friends or relatives. [REDACTED] understands and agrees that the confidentiality required in this Agreement are material considerations for the payment to be made pursuant to this Agreement.

6. The parties agree that this agreement is not an admission of liability on the part of any party.

7. [REDACTED] DECLARES THAT HE HAS READ THE FOREGOING AGREEMENT, AND FULLY UNDERSTANDS ITS TERMS. [REDACTED] FURTHER DECLARES THAT HE HAS OBTAINED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING FOR THE INJURIES ALLEGED AND UNDERSTANDS THEIR IMPACT ON HIM; AND DECLARES THAT HE VOLUNTARILY ACCEPTS THE TERMS AND SUM OF MONEY UNDER THIS AGREEMENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING A FULL

AND FINAL COMPROMISE, ADJUSTMENT AND SETTLEMENT OF ALL CLAIMS
AS DESCRIBED ABOVE.

8. In witness of this Agreement, we have hereunto set
our hands on the dates respectively indicated.

[REDACTED]

IN PRESENCE OF:

Date: _____

JEROME LANSER

IN PRESENCE OF:

Date: _____

ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE
OF MILWAUKEE

IN PRESENCE OF:

By: _____
Vicar for Clergy

Date: _____

ST. MARY'S CONGREGATION

IN PRESENCE OF:

By: _____

Date: _____

CONFIDENTIAL

20. Lanser, Jerome

On Wednesday, October 9, 1991 Joe Dean shared with me a letter received from Matthew Flynn regarding Jerome. An attorney representing a [REDACTED] alleges that Jerome sexually abused him during his years at St. Mary Parish in Menomonee Falls (1964-1969). After consulting with Attorney Matt Flynn, I met with Jerome on Thursday, October 10, 1991 at his office in Franciscan Villa and informed him of this allegation. I asked him to contact Matt Flynn to further discuss the allegation.

On Thursday, October 17, 1991 Jerry called numerous times to seek further information on allegations received earlier. Matt Flynn is in contact with the other attorney and as soon as Matt finds out what they are seeking, Jerry would like to meet to discuss the situation.

RTV

REDACTED

AOM SUPP 001938

ADOM057969

Select Lanser Sexual Abuse Intake Reports

- 3/25/10 Confidential Notice of Concern regarding another report of abuse from the 1980s involving Lanser. Individual reporting the sexual assault was an adult at the time of the assault. Abuse consisted of kissing and grabbing genitals. Victims assistance coordinator informed the individual that he had a right to go to the police if he had been sexually assaulted.
- 9/5/10 Survivor letter to Lanser regarding his abuse by Nichols which consisted of rape and occurred in the Nichols' family trailer. The letter places blame on Lanser for allowing the sexual abuse to occur. Indicates that Lanser is attending wakes and funerals wearing his collar.