

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

HILLSBOROUGH, SS

SUPERIOR COURT

JAMES A. MACCORMACK

vs.

THE DIOCESE OF MANCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE;  
MOST REVEREND JOHN B. MCCORMACK;  
REV. MSGR. JOHN P. QUINN;  
REV. DONALD E. CLINTON

No.

COMPLAINT

DECLARATIONS COMMON TO ALL COUNTS

1. The Plaintiff, James A. "Seamus" MacCormack, is an adult resident of the state of New Hampshire, who, at all times relevant to this action was an ordained priest of the Roman Catholic Church attached to the Diocese of Manchester, New Hampshire.
2. The Defendant Diocese of Manchester is a body corporate headquartered in Manchester, New Hampshire. The Defendant Most Reverend John B. McCormack is the Bishop of the Diocese of Manchester and is its highest-ranking official. The Defendants Rev. Msgr. John P. Quinn and Rev. Donald E. Clinton are ordained priests of the Diocese who report directly or indirectly to the Defendant McCormack.
3. The Plaintiff in this matter answered the call to the priesthood out of deep and abiding religious convictions and out of a profound desire to serve the Roman Catholic Church. Upon making the personal decision to pursue becoming a Catholic priest the Plaintiff entered religious training with the Diocese of New Hampshire. The Plaintiff invested years of study and tens of thousands of dollars in pursuing his goal to become ordained.
4. The Plaintiff was ordained in the Diocese of Manchester in 1997, after having been fully trained and educated and with the expectation that he would lead a religious life, that he would follow the covenants of obedience, celibacy and poverty, and that the Diocese of Manchester and its officials would support his pursuit of the religious calling.

5. At no time during the period when the Plaintiff was in training did any of the Defendants disclose to the Plaintiff that deviant sexual behavior was countenanced, tolerated, and permitted among priests of the Diocese. To the contrary, the Plaintiff was assigned to mentors and teachers who emphasized the religious and holy nature of their work and who purported to respect the covenants of obedience, celibacy and poverty.
6. On a morning in November 1999 at approximately 3:00 AM, the Plaintiff received a telephone call from a law enforcement official who informed him that one of the Plaintiff's business cards had been found among the effects of a man who had died earlier that morning of an apparent heart attack. The official requested that the Plaintiff report to a New Hampshire hospital to confirm the identity of the body. The Plaintiff agreed and complied.
7. The Plaintiff was able to identify the body and name the decedent. The decedent was a Catholic priest of the Diocese of Manchester who had served as a mentor to Plaintiff after he entered the priesthood.
8. The state medical examiner concluded that the deceased priest had died from heart problems which were likely exacerbated by the use of Viagra, and, that at the time of his death he was wearing a leather sexual device on his genitals.
9. Troubled by the priest's death, the Plaintiff contacted the Defendant, Father Donald Clinton, a priest known to be a close associate of the deceased priest. Father Clinton instructed the Plaintiff to meet with him promptly at the rectory where the deceased priest had resided. The Plaintiff complied and reported as directed to the rectory located in Manchester, New Hampshire.
10. The Plaintiff arrived at the rectory at the same time as Father Clinton and was surprised to see the Defendant Father Quinn also arriving. Father Quinn was one of the most senior officials of the Diocese, was the head of Diocesan financial affairs, and reported directly to the Defendant Bishop John McCormack.
11. Defendant Quinn immediately took command of the situation and instructed the others to prevent anyone from entering the deceased priest's apartment. He then directed the Plaintiff and Defendant Clinton to follow him into the apartment. Once inside, Defendant Quinn commenced an immediate and painstakingly thorough search of the premises and ordered Clinton and the Plaintiff to participate. The search party identified large quantities of pornographic material in plain view, including hundreds of pornographic videotapes and vast quantities of pornographic images depicting men engaged in sexual activity with each other, and men engaged in sexual activity with boys.
12. At the direction of the Defendant Quinn, the search continued throughout the apartment and into the attic. Each piece of clothing was searched for receipts or other

small pieces of paper, drawers were removed from furniture and inspected, carpeting was peeled back, the mattress was over turned, as were seat cushions.

13. During the course of the search a huge quantity of pornographic films and magazines was loaded into dozens of plastic garbage bags and ordered carried to a vehicle parked in the closed garage. Also removed from the apartment were sexual devices designed to be worn by persons engaged in sexual activities, including artificial genitalia, leather thongs in a variety of sizes, wigs, and sex-enhancing drugs including Viagra and Amyl nitrate. Some of these materials were discovered in a secret compartment concealed within a closet, additional materials were recovered from the attic.
14. Soon after the search commenced the Plaintiff, appalled and breathless at the sight of the materials, sat down to compose himself and was approached by Defendant Quinn who uttered words to the effect, "Don't worry, we've done this lots of times." Throughout the search and removal process Defendants Quinn and Clinton worked quickly and remained composed and business-like.
15. The pornographic materials and sexual devices were transported to a Diocese facility in Concord, New Hampshire and ordered destroyed.
16. Following the cleansing of the deceased priest's residence, the Plaintiff sought advice and guidance from his close associates and family members. He considered leaving the priesthood and was puzzled why no investigation was begun and why no official of the Diocese had contacted him concerning the events.
17. Upon careful personal reflection, the Plaintiff made the decision to remain with the priesthood, but to apply himself to his duties and calling in a manner that would make his priesthood an example of what a religious life should be; he resolved to work to rid the church of the sort of hypocrisy he had witnessed and to strive to achieve excellency in his ministry.
18. The Plaintiff was assigned to a small, rural parish where his plans were put in motion. He succeeded in doubling church attendance and parish revenues; he renovated church property and improved the operations and services of his ministry. In so doing, the Plaintiff won the respect, admiration and love of his parishioners.
19. The Plaintiff was also outspoken, vibrant, and, at times, critical of church policy and practices.
20. In February of 2002, a crisis erupted in the Diocese of Manchester and elsewhere throughout the world concerning the incidence of child sexual abuse by Catholic priests. The scandal brought wide spread press and law enforcement attention throughout the northeastern United States, much of which directly involved the Defendant John McCormack. Soon after the crisis became public, the Plaintiff became the focus of a series of confrontations by the Defendant McCormack.

Defendant McCormack accused him of being mentally ill, of being abusive to others, and of creating personnel problems. Defendant McCormack ordered the Plaintiff to make statements to his parishioners which were untrue. Throughout this period Plaintiff was at a loss to explain the hostility of Defendant McCormack towards him in the light of Plaintiff's performance.

21. The confrontations by Defendant McCormack increased in intensity culminating in his ordering the Plaintiff to submit to a multi-day psychological evaluation at a Church run facility in Canada to determine, among other things, whether the Plaintiff was capable of making good decisions about keeping secrets. The Plaintiff submitted to the evaluation which established that he was not suffering from any mental illness.
22. Nonetheless, Defendant McCormack continued to suggest to Plaintiff and to others that the Plaintiff was a mentally disturbed person. Defendant McCormack threatened to remove Plaintiff from his parish remarking to the plaintiff at one point that he, Defendant McCormack, was "not going to make you jump through hoops, I am going to make you crawl."
23. Plaintiff remained outspoken and critical of certain church policies commenting, publicly, that the Diocese was more interested in protecting pedophile priests than in helping good priests. After making this comment the Plaintiff was immediately removed from his post and ordered to report to Manchester, New Hampshire to live under conditions which were tantamount to house arrest.
24. Following the Plaintiff's loss of his position, the Defendant McCormack continued to attack the reputation of the Plaintiff, repeatedly suggesting that the Plaintiff was a mentally disturbed person who was not worthy of belief. Defendant McCormack through overt statements and subtle suggestions was, on information and belief, attempting to destroy the credibility of the Plaintiff and create the impression in the community that he was mentally unbalanced. Defendant McCormack did so in spite of findings of the Church's own mental health professionals.
25. Upon information and belief, these actions were taken by Defendant McCormack to help conceal from detection the Diocese's tolerance of deviant sexual behavior, the widespread sexual practices of many priests within the Diocese, and the Church sponsored cover-up of the same. It was, on information and belief, the purpose of the Defendant Diocese and Defendant McCormack, to either force the Plaintiff into obedience to prevent him from disclosing what he knew, or render him not credible on the grounds of mental derangement.
26. As a direct result of the actions of the Defendants the Plaintiff has suffered the loss of his profession; the loss of his religious life; the loss of thousands of dollars invested in his priestly training; the loss of his income; physical suffering manifested from stress; the loss of reputation and other losses.

### COUNT ONE – FRAUD

In a plea of trespass,

27. The Defendants Diocese of Manchester, and McCormack, made false and fraudulent promises and representations to the Plaintiff to induce him into joining the priesthood in the Diocese of Manchester, by failing to disclose to or warn the Plaintiff that deviant sexual practices were tolerated and countenanced within the Diocese. As a direct result of these fraudulent actions the Plaintiff was damaged to a degree and in an amount within the jurisdictional limits of the Court.

### COUNT TWO – INTENTIONAL INFLECTION OF MENTAL DISTRESS

In a plea of trespass,

28. The Defendants Diocese of Manchester, Quinn, Clinton and McCormack, through extreme and outrageous conduct, recklessly or intentionally inflicted severe emotional and mental distress upon the Plaintiff by using their authority and power to impugn Plaintiff's reputation and mental stability in order to protect and conceal deviant sexual practices which were tolerated and countenanced within the Diocese. As a direct result of these actions the Plaintiff suffered mental anguish, grief, horror, humiliation, embarrassment, anger, disappointment, nausea and other physical harm, and was damaged to a degree and in an amount within the jurisdictional limits of the Court.

### COUNT THREE – INJURY TO REPUTATION

In a plea of trespass,

29. The Defendants Diocese of Manchester, and McCormack, defamed and injured Plaintiff's reputation in the community by falsely asserting that he was a mentally disturbed person. As a direct result of these actions the Plaintiff was damaged to a degree and in an amount within the jurisdictional limits of the Court.

### COUNT FOUR – WRONGFUL DISCHARGE

In a plea of trespass,

30. The Defendants Diocese of Manchester, and McCormack, motivated by bad faith, malice and retaliation, wrongfully took adverse action against the Plaintiff by depriving him of his employment, profession and livelihood for performing acts which public policy would encourage. As a direct result of these actions the Plaintiff

was damaged to a degree and in an amount within the jurisdictional limits of the Court.

COUNT FIVE – CONSTRUCTIVE DISCHARGE

In a plea of trespass,

31. The Defendants Diocese of Manchester, and McCormack, motivated by bad faith, malice and retaliation, wrongfully took adverse action against the Plaintiff by depriving him of his employment, profession and livelihood through establishing working conditions so difficult and unpleasant that plaintiff was compelled to leave his employment. As a direct result of these actions the Plaintiff was damaged to a degree and in an amount within the jurisdictional limits of the Court.

James A. "Seamus" MacCormack  
By His Attorneys:

Robert E. McDaniel  
The Law Offices of Robert E. McDaniel  
4 Bicentennial Square  
Concord, New Hampshire  
(603) 224-4333

## MEMORANDUM OF INTERVIEW

PERSON INTERVIEWED: DAVID WHITE

PLACE OF INTERVIEW: NH ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE  
TELEPHONIC

DATE OF INTERVIEW: August 12, 2002

INTERVIEWED BY: ANTHONY FOWLER, INV. (C)  
KATHY KIMBALL, INV.

RE: JAMES "SEAMUS" MACCORMICK

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Above investigators received a call back from DAVID WHITE, who is a professor in the Education Dept. at KEENE STATE COLLEGE. MR. WHITE has taught at KEENE STATE for 28 years and resides at [REDACTED]

Asked MR. WHITE what he had done with the computer he received from FATHER CONNORS after CONNORS' death, and stated he destroyed it. Indicated that he never turned the computer on and did not know how to use it. WHITE indicated when asked, that he read the newspaper articles about FATHER CONNORS and FATHER MACCORMICK recently and it sickened him when he learned what had occurred and what was said in the media. MR. WHITE stated he is familiar with the CONNORS family and has been worried about them ever since.

Asked MR. WHITE if he ever turned the computer on, and stated he never did. Asked if the hard drive might still be available, and he answered no. MR. WHITE, stated he had known FATHER CONNORS for 18 years prior to his death and further indicated that he never knew FATHER CONNORS to be interested in child pornography or to possess child pornography. Stated that when he read about FATHER CONNORS in the papers, particularly about the Viagra, he suspected that CONNORS had purchased the Viagra through the Internet. He also knew that the CONNORS' family had been through enough, and smashed the computer up and then took it to the landfill. WHITE stated he did not destroy the computer due to there being child pornography on it, but did so because of the Viagra issue and possible Internet purchases that may have still been on the hard drive.

Asked WHITE when and how he received the computer. Stated that within a week of FATHER CONNORS passing, he received a telephone call from FATHER CONNORS' brother. The brother indicated that FATHER CONNORS had left him (WHITE) various items such as the computer, some pewter and a coffee table. WHITE stated that he and his son and his son's wife then drove to ST. PIUS rectory

and picked these items up. This occurred app. 8 days after CONNORS' death. Asked where the items were when he picked them up. Stated that all the items were downstairs at the rectory and the family had packed them up. Asked how he met FATHER CONNORS, and stated he met the FATHER at KEENE STATE COLLEGE when the FATHER was the CHAPLIN there, and they remained friends.



MEMORANDUM

TO: File

FROM: Will Delker *WD*

DATE: August 27, 2002

RE: Diocese of Manchester: Interviews with Father Clinton and Father Quinn

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Today I had a conversation with Attorney Steve Gordon who represents Father Clinton and Father Quinn with respect to allegations that a former priest, Seamus MacCormack, made against the Diocese of Manchester. MacCormack had informed investigators from the Attorney General's Office that he removed pornographic material from the rectory where Father Connor lived after Father Connor died. MacCormack told investigators that Fr. Clinton and Fr. Quinn were also present and assisted in the removal of the pornographic material from Fr. Connor's living quarters. MacCormack informed investigators that there might have been child pornograph among the material that was removed and destroyed.

Attorney Gordon informed me during a telephone conversation today that he had spoken with Fr. Quinn and Fr. Clinton. Gordon stated that both priests denied that there was any child pornography among the materials removed from Fr. Connor's apartment. Gordon stated that he did not want Fr. Quinn and Fr. Clinton to be interviewed by investigators from the AGO because he was concerned that the content of their interviews might be released publicly after the case is closed. Gordon was concerned that the release of their interviews might then be used by Seamus MacCormack in his civil lawsuit against Fr. Quinn, Fr. Clinton, and the Diocese. Gordon stated that without protection from public disclosure he would not allow the priests to be interviewed. I informed Gordon that in the circumstances of this case, I did not feel that I could guarantee that interviews of Quinn and Clinton would not be released to the public at the conclusion of the investigation if the AGO received a right to know request.

In light of the attorney proffer made by Gordon regarding the absence of child pornography and in light of the refusal of Fr. Quinn and Fr. Clinton to be interviewed, no further investigative steps are appropriate with respect to the allegations raised by Seamus MacCormack.

MEMORANDUM OF INTERVIEW

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PLACE OF INTERVIEW: NH ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE  
TELEPHONIC  
DATE OF INTERVIEW: August 12, 2002  
INTERVIEWED BY: ANTHONY FOWLER, INV.  
KATHY KIMBALL, INV.  
RE: JAMES "SEAMUS" MACCORMICK

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and picked these items up. This occurred app. 8 days after CONNORS' death. Asked where the items were when he picked them up. Stated that all the items were downstairs at the rectory and the family had packed them up. Asked how he met FATHER CONNORS, and stated he met the FATHER at KEENE STATE COLLEGE when the FATHER was the CHAPLIN there, and they remained friends.

## MEMORANDUM OF INTERVIEW

PERSON INTERVIEWED: **JAMES "SEAMUS" MacCORMICK**

PLACE OF INTERVIEW: New Hampshire Attorney General's Office

DATE OF INTERVIEW: Monday, July 22, 2002

PERSON INTERVIEWING: Investigator Anthony Fowler, AG's Office  
Detective Kathleen M. Kimball, NHSP-Major Crime Unit



RE: **JAMES "SEAMUS" MacCORMICK**

On this date a tape recorded interview was conducted with **MacCORMICK** in the presence of his attorney, Robert McDANIEL.

Attached is a transcript of the interview which will be made a part of this case file. It is self-explanatory.

End of report.

INTERVIEW OF JAMES SEAMUS MACCORMACK

SIDE A

AF: This, is, ah, Investigator Anthony Fowler of the New Hampshire Attorney General's Office. Um, it is July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2002, at 1:26 p.m. by my watch. Ah, we are in Room 206 of the New Hampshire Attorney General's Office conducting an interview with, ah, Mr. Seamus MacCormack. Um, Mr. MacCormack before we get started, ah, do you have any, ah, problem with this interview being audio taped?

JM: No. I do not.

AF: Okay. And, ah, just for the record would ask everybody to speak up, ah, because of the microphone, it is a small microphone. Ah, this is, um, an interview that's being conducted pursuant to an investigation pertaining to the Diocese of Manchester and I'm going to go around the room and ask everyone to identify themselves and, ah, why they are here and, and would further ask, ah, that they, ah, spell their names for us.

KK: I'm Detective Kathieen M. Kimball, K-I-M-B-A-L-L. And I'm a Detective with the New Hampshire State Police Major Crime Unit and currently serving on a task force out of the Attorney General's Office investigating the Diocese of Manchester.

LW: My name is Laurie Woodaman, L-A-U-R-I-E, W-O-O-D-A-M-A-N. I run a law practice with Robert E. McDaniel and I'm here because I am Legal Case Manager for Seamus MacCormack.

JM: My name is, ah, James Seamus MacCormack, ah, M-A-C-C-O-R-M-A-C-K, I'm here to give, ah, testimony.

RM: Robert E. McDaniel, M-C-D-A-N-I-E-L, counsel to James A. Seamus MacCormack.

AF: Okay. Does anybody have a problem with us being audio taped, like to go over that?

RM: We, we agree.

AF: Okay. Um. Mr. MacCormack, ah, would you first initially state your, ah, address and date of birth and pertinent information such as that and your phone number please.

JM: Sure. My current address is, ah, [REDACTED]  
And, ah, phone number I can be reached is [REDACTED] my date is birth is [REDACTED]

AF: Social security number, Seamus.

JM: [REDACTED]

AF: Okay, anyways we had discussed ah, just before going on the tape I want to, ah, ss, center this interview or focus this interview on the events, ah, during and right after the, ah, passing way of, ah, Father Connors who was the, ah, ah, parish priest down in, ah, Manchester at, ah, St. Pius.

JM: That's correct.

AF: Okay. Um, Mr. MacCormack could you initially tell us when, what your recollection is of when Father Connors retired, ah, I'm sorry passed away.

JM: Father Connors passed away in November, early November of 199, ah, 1999.

AF: And for the record what was Father Connors' assignment and what was his first name?

JM: Father Connors was assigned at St. Pius the Tenth in Manchester and his first name is Richard.

AF: Okay. Um. Before I go any further I wanna get a little background information as to who you are.

JM: Sure.

AF: Ah it, my understanding obvious is that you are a priest.

JM: Yes.

AF: Where, where sir were you, ah, ordained? When did you first become a priest?

JM: I was ordained in Manchester for the Diocese in June of '97.

AF: June of '97?

JM: By Bishop Leo O'Neil.

AF: And what were your assignments, ah, ah, once you became a priest, sir?

JM: I was ordained a priest. I was assigned at St. Joseph's in Salem and I was there for a three-year period as Associate. And then in June of 2000, I was assigned to a pastorship over at St. Patrick's in Jaffrey. I was there up until this past May.

AF: And what happened this past May? Ah, just very briefly what, what occurred sir?

JM: Ah, I had three dialogs with Bishop McCormack and he felt that it'd best that I be, ah, relieved of my duty as a. ah, pastor and be placed, ah, in St. Joseph's Cathedral in Manchester as an associate priest for the weekend duties.

AF: And are you?

RM: Un, under the direct supervision of what person?

JM: It would be, ah, Bishop Christian would be there and, ah, and I would. ah, weekly dia, have dialogs with Bishop McCormack.

AF: Okay. And what is your current status with the Catholic church, sir?

JM: Current status right now is that I'm on a three-month, ah, as bishop would state vacation.

AF: Okay. Alright, let's getting back to Father Connors. When were you first, or how did you first learn that Father Connors had, ah, passed away?

JM: Ah, approximately 3:00 a.m. on November. I don't have the exact date, um, 3:00 a.m. in the morning I had the, um, you all set there, I had the, ah, trying to think of the name, ah, another gentleman called me.

RM: He is the representative of the medical examiner's office.

JM: Right the medical's office, had given me a call and, um, in, asked me if I was, ah, Father MacCormack and I said yes I was and he said, ah, am I aware of a, ah, do I know of a Father, ah, Richard Connors. Of course I'm as half asleep so I said could you repeat that please, he says, ah, Father Richard Connors, he's known as Father Dick. I go yes I know Father Connors. So he stated well Father I need to give you some unpleasant news, um. I hate to be the bearer of bad news but what we, ah, I represent, ah, the office and, ah, that he, ah, has passed away. And I said well how can that be. And, and so he said well, ah, apparently that, ah, his death was under some strange circumstances and I said well.

- AF: Did he at, did he give you any detail at that point of, of what those strange circumstances were?
- JM: Yes sir, yes.
- AF: Okay.
- JM: Exactly, he, he proceeded to say well, eh, to let you know this is rather embarrassing and I ask you to keep this, ah, ah, confidential at this point. But Father Connors was at a residence, ah, can I name the place?
- AF: Yes, I, I want you to if you would please.
- JM: In, in, in Derry and, um, ah, he was in the company of two men and that, ah, ah, he was engaged in some type of sexual act and succumbed to a apparent heart attack and need to let you know that Father MacCormack that, ah, there was some type of apparatus wrapped around his, his genital area. And I said well, that's awful. You know and, and so he said, ah, well what I wanna do is if you could, could you come down to, ah, ah, Parkland Hospital to give a positive identification to this man since you've known him.
- AF: Why would they have, why did, why did the, ah, ME call you?
- JM: He called me because he had found my business card in a jacket that Father Connors was wearing.
- AF: Okay.
- JM: And it's, it's customary that any priest would have a business card.
- AF: Once you received that call, did you in fact go to Parkland Medical?
- JM: Before I went to Parkland Medical I, I notified the, ah, current pastor of St., ah, Joseph's and that was, ah, Father Dan Lamont who is currently still there. And informed him of the situation. And so what he suggested was that we call the Diocese and we tried calling the Diocese to no avail.
- AF: Didn't reach anyone?
- JM: Didn't reach anyone at all.
- AF: Okay.
- JM: Ah, just left a message, say it stating that, ah, Father (unintelligible).



- RM: Um, Seamus, um. Mr. Fowler's question to you was did you go down to Parkland?
- JM: Yes.
- RM: Okay.
- JM: Okay.
- AF: Who did you go to Parkland with if anybody?
- JM: I went by myself.
- AF: Alright. When you got to Parkland, what, ah, ah, what did you do down there?
- JM: When I got down to Parkland? I, ah, first met with the medical examiner, ah, who had gave me the call. And talked with him just briefly. To indicate that I would view the body and there was two, um, policemen there and Father Connors', ah, family was there. so I identified the body first.
- AF: Was it in fact Father Connors that you saw?
- JM: Yes it, yes it was.
- AF: Okay. After you identified the body did you have any other conversations with anyone, ah, at that location about the circumstances surrounding the death of Father Connors?
- JM: Just briefly with the medical examiner again.
- AF: And what did he tell you sir?
- JM: He told me that, ah, Father Connors died in, in, ah, you know strange circumstances and that, um, you know that was the case.
- AF: Did he ever tell you what was attached to the genitalia of Father Connors?
- JM: Yes he did.
- AF: What was that sir?
- JM: It would say a leather device. That was connected to his genitalia.

AF: Okay. Do you have any questions in this area before we? Hm, you can think of? Okay. Alright once you identified the body of Father Connors what did you do then, where did you go?

JM: Right after I identified the body I talked with his two brothers and sisters-in-law.

AF: Okay.

JM: Gave them pastoral care.

AF: Okay.

JM: And then after I did that then I left.

AF: Were they aware of the circumstances of, ah, Father

JM: No, they weren't.

AF: Connors, ah, death?

JM: No.

AF: Okay.

JM: Other than, ah, ah, the word heart attack.

AF: Okay.

JM: That's it.

AF: Um, after you did that Mr. MacCormack, ah, what, where did you go?

JM: I went back to the rectory.

AF: And who did you speak to once you went back to the rectory?

JM: I saw the pastor.

AF: Okay.

JM: Current Pastor, Father Dan Lamont.

AF: And Father who?

JM: Father Dan Lamont.

AF: Okay. And, what was the conversation that you had with, ah, Father Lamont?

JM: Father Lamont, um, he felt, um, he knew I was very distressed over this situation. He knew that, ah, that, the, you know how could this be? This is a priest that I've had as a pastor. He tried to comfort me saying, well you know what, ah, this is, ah, a very strange set of circumstance but you need to, you know pray for him. He did many, many good works, in that parish.

AF: Right. At some particular point, did you ever become aware that the bishop himself or anybody at the Diocese, ah, be, ah, were notified or how they were notified about Father Connors' death and the circumstances of that death?

JM: Um. When I showed up at, ah, Father Connors' rectory, ah, I had called a priest friend of Father Connors, Father Donald Clinton. And, ah, I informed him of Father Connors' death, and he said well, meet me at the rectory. And so when I

AF: Alright. Let's back up little bit.

JM: Sure.

AF: You contacted Father Clinton?

JM: Father Clinton?

AF: Donald Clinton.

JM: Donald Clinton.

AF: And what was, and when did you do that sir?

JM: Um, ah, shortly after around six, six thirty in, in the morning.

AF: Okay, why did you contact Father Clinton?

JM: Cuz I knew he was a very good friend of Father Connors.

AF: Okay. And, what did you tell Father Clinton?

JM: That Father Dick died. He had a heart attack.

AF: Alright. And you ended up meeting Father Clinton?

JM: Father Clinton suggested that we go to

RM: Did? Go ahead.

JM: Yes, suggested that we go to, ah, Father Connors' rectory.

RM: Did you tell Clinton about the sexual leather device?

JM: No, I did not.

RM: It's okay.

AF: Clinton had no idea at this point

JM: That's right.

AF: other than the fact that Father Connors had passed away.

JM: Had died, ya.

AF: Good.

KK: Ah, can I just back up a little bit too?

AF: Sure.

KK: You went, you received the call in Salem.

JM: Hm, hm.

KK: You responded to Parkland in Derry.

JM: Yes.

KK: Then you went back to Salem?

JM: Hm, hm.

KK: And then you went to St. Pius in Manchester?

JM: Right.

KK: Alright.

- RM: Okay, now in that period before you got to St. Pius in Manchester, did you ever call Father Quinn who's the head of finance at the, ah?
- JM: No contact at all.
- RM: Okay. Did you talk to anybody other than the people that you saw at the hospital, Dan Lamont and Father Clinton?
- JM: I did.
- RM: Who?
- AF: Who was that?
- JM: I spoke with a, a Shawn McDonough who was the youth minister. Who's, ah, very good friends with Father Connors.
- AF: Okay. And where was, ah, Father McDonough?
- JM: Fath, it was a Mr. McDonough.
- AF: Mr. McDonough.
- JM: Just a minute.
- AF: Where is he?
- JM: He lives in Jaff, in, ah, in Salem.
- AF: In Salem. What was the purpose of calling him?
- JM: To inform him that Father Connors had died.
- RM: Did you tell him about the sex device?
- JM: Yes, I did.
- RM: Okay.
- AF: And what was his response to that?
- JM: Ah, he was greatly upset, great, cuz he admired this man. Very, very emotional over it. But he said you know the, we need to be really giving thanks to God for his good works. So that's it.

- AF: So you, so Father Clinton then asked you to meet him at St. Pius?
- JM: That's correct.
- AF: Right, eh, at the rectory?
- JM: At the rectory.
- AF: Alright. What time was it that you met Father Clinton, there?
- JM: I'm gonna say, ah, not exact but I'm gonna say but either eight or eight thirty.
- AF: What was the purpose of meeting Father Clinton there?
- JM: It's to inform the secretary who had, attends daily liturgy and to, ah, inform her of Father Connors' death and then to, ah, ask her not to have anyone else come into the house.
- AF: At this point, does anybody other than the people you've mentioned, does anybody else know or are there any officials in the Diocese that know about Father Connor's death, to your knowledge?
- JM: Not to my knowledge, until Father Quinn, Monsignor Quinn showed up at the, ah, at the rectory.
- AF: Okay.
- JM: Eh, almost the same time we pulled in.
- AF: Alright, so you and Father Clinton show up almost at the same time.
- JM: Separate cars.
- AF: Separate, at St. Pius.
- JM: Right.
- AF: And then who shows up?
- JM: Ah, Monsignor Quinn.
- AF: Okay, who is Monsignor Quinn?
- JM: Monsignor Jack Quinn.

- AF: Just for the, record.
- JM: Ah, handles the finances for the Diocese, is one of the bishop's right-hand men.
- AF: How is he notified?
- JM: I'm not privy to that I, I don't know.
- RM: That's the right answer, James.
- JM: I.
- RM: If you don't know, you don't know.
- AF: You don't know. Alright. So, he shows up. Monsignor Quinn shows up, you're there with Father Lamont and yourself.
- JM: No.
- LM: No, Father.
- AF: Fath, Fath, I'm sorry, Father Clinton, okay. And it's a notification you let the secretary know what happened?
- JM: That's right.
- AF: Alright, what happens then?
- JM: What had?
- AF: What takes place then?
- JM: At that point, ah, Monsignor Quinn took over and suggested to the secretary that no family members or anybody be allowed up into the private residence of Father Connors. And that he would instruct, um, the secretary when and if any family members could come in.
- AF: Who is the secretary, do you remember?
- JM: I don't remember her name.
- AF: Her name? What was the purpose of Monsignor Quinn, making that request do you know?

JM: At that point I don't know.

AF: Okay. Didn't know, alright.

RM: Do you know now?

JM: I do know now.

AF: Alright, we'll get to that.

JM: Okay.

AF: Once Fath. Monsignor Quinn tells the secretary that, what happens next?

JM: At that point, ah, Monsignor Quinn, ah, suggested that Father Clinton and myself follow him up to the private residence and that any door we went through would be, either be closed, ah, and, ah, and locked so nobody can gain, gain entrance.

AF: What, what was your reaction to that?

JM: At first I thought well this is rather strange. And then, ah,

AF: I mean is this normal procedure or practice?

JM: I don't know. This was a first time event for me.

AF: Okay.

JM: And the only time event.

AF: Alright. So you go up to his

JM: Private residence.

AF: And for the record we're talking about Father Connors.

JM: Father Connors.

AF: At St. Pius.

JM: That's correct.

AF: Okay. What, what is said then? What happens then?



- JM: Mons Quinn, Monsignor Quinn gave the instruction to, ah, Father Clinton and myself okay we need to go through the entire residence. Looking through drawers, looking through any hiding space to make sure there's nothing embarrassing of, ah, Father Connors.
- AF: Was that the term that he used?
- JM: Yes.
- AF: Anything embarrassing?
- JM: Anything embarrassing.
- AF: Did, did he at that point elaborate on what he was talking about?
- JM: No, he did not.
- AF: Alright. Did you or anyone or Father Clinton ask, why we're, we were doing this?
- JM: I did.
- AF: And what was?
- JM: I, I, I, I said what, what are we gonna find a Playboy. And I just left it at that. And then Monsignor Quinn said just make sure we go through everything thoroughly.
- AF: Okay. What happened then?
- JM: We started in the living room and we started going through, Father Connors, had a very large television and a stand and in there, there was, ah, in the back shelf there was numerous tapes. Some that had, ah, visible
- AF: What do you mean by tapes? Audio or video tapes?
- JM: Tapes, video tapes.
- AF: Okay.
- JM: VHS. Ah, and they were obvious, ah, indication of pornography, um, men having relations as homosexual relationships.
- KK: Why, how was that obvious?

- JM: Ah, by a sheet or a jacket cover.
- RM: And we want you to complete the answer cuz there's two parts to it.
- JM: Right.
- RM: You saw video tapes.
- JM: That were marked, ah, with a sheet cover but then there were numerous video tapes that were unmarked, meaning they were just, there was no sheet cover.
- RM: It was clear to you from looking at the covers of the video tapes that these, that the contents of the tape were, had homosexual
- JM: Homosexual.
- RM: Men and men.
- JM: Right.
- RM: Did you see any that had homosexual acts between men and boys?
- JM: Indication that they were, ah, very young men.
- AF: Commercial?
- JM: They looked commercial, yes. Ah, what was, ah, a, again a plain VHS tape, ah, I don't know what the content was.
- AF: Was, did the label look that were, was on the tape did it look homemade or?
- JM: Something you could buy that you can record on.
- AF: That's what I'm ask
- JM: That's correct.
- AF: Ya. Okay.
- KK: When you say young men, ah, that's a very, that could mean one thing to you and one thing to us. Is there anyway, eh, that else that you could describe
- JM: Teenagers.
- KK: ah, young men? Alright.

JM: Teenagers.

AF: Okay.

JM: I can clear that up with a question if you want.

AF: Early, early teen, mid teen?

JM: Mid teens.

AF: Okay.

KK: Under the age of eighteen, in your best estimation?

JM: I would say, I would say, yes.

RM: But Seamus you didn't actual see any that involved pre-pubescent children.

JM: No.

AF: That was my next question.

JM: No, I did not.

AF: Did you ever view any of these tapes?

JM: No, we did not.

AF: Other than ss, than see what the jackets

JM: No.

AF: said, and labels.

JM: None were, none were viewed.

AF: How many tapes, if you had to estimate?

JM: (Sigh) I would have to estimate, over a hundred.

AF: Over a hundred?

JM: There were at. at least a hundred.

- AF: What happened to those tapes?
- JM: All those tapes were placed, ah, they were loose, were placed in, um, black, ah, trash bags.
- AF: At whose direction?
- JM: By the, ah, Monsignor Quinn.
- AF: Did Monsignor Quinn at some point become aware of these tapes?
- JM: My impression was that, ah, it was a prior knowledge.
- AF: Who, who did, okay. That's your impression? Or do you
- JM: That's, that's my impression.
- AF: Alright.
- JM: Cuz it didn't seem to phase him.
- AF: Okay. Who, who was actually doing the searching of this, of the, ah, quarters?
- JM: The three us, just the three of us were in there.
- AF: Okay. Did Mr., Monsignor Quinn or anybody other make any comment about what was being found?
- JM: No.
- AF: At that particular point?
- JM: No. I'll, I'll, other than with me sitting down on the couch.
- AF: Yup.
- JM: Because. I've never seen this before. And being a priest for two years and all of a sudden that there's a lot of pornography here, ah, you know, and Monsignor Quinn say you know, hey, relax don't worry about it, we've done this lots of times.
- AF: That's what I was asking. What, what were some of the comments that were made?
- JM: Mon

- AF: By Monsignor Quinn or
- JM: Monsignor, Monsignor Quinn just told me you know relax, we've done this lots of times. Catch your breath and, you know and continue.
- AF: We've done this lots of times.
- JM: We've done this lots of times.
- AF: What was Father Clinton's reaction, to this?
- JM: Um. Very matter of fact. Very, ah, and I would say focused, goal oriented. Get the material. Get it, ah, find whatever it is and get it outta there.
- AF: What else did you guys locate
- JM: In
- AF: in his quarters?
- JM: Father
- AF: Found. found?
- JM: In his quarters, ah, we located that there was in his, um, um, in his, right off his, um, bedroom and his, um, living room was a computer. And, ah, there was, ah, that was handled by Monsignor Quinn. And then, ah.
- AF: What do you mean handled?
- JM: A meaning that, ah, I'll handle, I'll take care of this room. Um, he took control of that room. Ah, it was indicated that the possibility he was on a, ah, chat line. Ah, I do notice that, ah, I did notice specifically that right by the computer was a, ah, a cognac glass. And, um, and I know that Father Connors always drank Grand Manier after a dinner. So he had that. Ah, hm, I'm sorry.
- KK: How, how many rooms made up these living quarters? Can you describe that?
- JM: The living quarters was, ah, one, two, oh, three, ah his private residence was a, ah, master bedroom, a, ah, small, ah, room that could have been a bedroom he made it to his private office and a living room. And then of course off the master bedroom was a bathroom.

- RM: I, I wanna clear one little thing if we could. Sha, um, Seamus, the, the hundred or more video tapes. ah, some of those video tapes were apparently commercially produced is that right?
- JM: That's correct.
- RM: But there was a num. there were a number of video tapes that weren't particularly labeled and looked as though they could be blank or have something that was recorded at home. (Unintelligible).
- JM: That, that's, that's correct.
- RM: And there was also a video camera capable of recording tapes of that size wasn't there?
- JM: I. I can't recall that.
- RM: Okay.
- JM: To be honest with you I can't recall that.
- RM: Okay.
- AF: Monsignor Quinn, let, let me ask you this, did you ever see anything that was ever printed off or ever, view anything on the computer in the room that Monsignor Quinn was taking, taking care of?
- JM: No, I did not.
- AF: What happened to that computer eventually?
- JM: I do not know where that went.
- AF: Did it leave the quarters of Father Connors that day?
- JM: That I'm not aware of.
- AF: Okay.
- JM: Not that day but it, it left, I, you know I'd imagine within, a very quick period of time.
- AF: Okay.
- LW: How were the comments were made about where it was suppose to go?

- JM: Right.
- AF: Alright, we'll, we'll,
- JM: Right.
- AF: What else was found in that?
- JM: Um, in, ah, lotta, lotta material was found in the living, in the living quarters of the, ah, of the living room, I mean, ah, tapes. unmarked tapes, a lot of unmarked tapes but the majority were industrial tapes, okay? Ah, in his bedroom, ah, there was, um, in the drawers there was, ah, ah, clothing that would be, ah, very risqué. Meaning that there was, ah, ah, thongs, ah, just a few of them. But all the drawers were pulled out and emptied onto the bed and sifted through, mainly by Father, ah, um, Clinton and Monsignor Quinn.
- AF: Okay.
- JM: And I, I was instructed to go into the closet and open up and pull out any suitcases that would be there.
- AF: Closet where?
- JM: Ah, in the, Father Connors' bedroom.
- AF: Okay.
- JM: It was a very large closet, he has two closets (unintelligible).
- AF: Other than the type of clothing that you're telling us about, what else if anything was found in that room?
- JM: In that room, ah, besides numerous, ah, eh, ah, thongs and, um, and, ah, and very skimpy bathing suits, ah, some sexual devices. There was a very large, um, artificial penis and, ah, other, ah, instruments that would be, ah, inserted in, ah, the rear end of an individual.
- AF: I know this is a little graphic and we're all adults here and I've done this for many years. Explain to me what you saw for sexual devices. Ah, you say they were used to do this and do that. Let's get into that.
- JM: Okay.
- AF: Tell me what you saw in that room. It's very important that we know.

JM: Rubber, art, artificial, ah, penis. Ah.

AF: Was it a strap-on penis or just or?

JM: There was there.

AF: A dildo type situation?

JM: There was, there was numerous dildos.

AF: Okay.

JM: And strap-on devices.

AF: Okay.

RM: How many?

JM: I would say for dildos there was about three. And strap on there was about half a dozen.

AF: Alright. What else did you see?

JM: I found, ah, devices that can be inserted, ah, eh, ah, in, in, the anus, ah

AF: Describe what you saw.

JM: It, it looked like a plug. Ah, a small short device.

AF: Okay. Would it be for a lack of better term and again, ah, not to sound crude, do you know what a butt plug is? Have you ever heard that term?

JM: I've heard that, I've heard (unintelligible).

AF: Or called something like that?

JM: Yes.

AF: Okay. What else do you remember, Seamus?

JM: Ah. I found, ah, in the closet, ah, Father, ah, Connors' war toupee, ah, ah, too, toupee.

AF: Yup.



- JM: There was, ah, few, ah, toupees there. As a matter of fact, when I was going through the closet, one artificial head, ah, or toupee would that fell on me and I thought it was kind of interesting. But when I was removing one of the. um, suitcases, my, my elbow touched the wall and, which was, ah. ah. a panel opened up. And in that panel, were some more tapes, ah, and some. ah
- AF: What kind of tapes?
- JM: They were unmarked video tapes.
- AF: Okay.
- JM: That like VHS.
- AF: Alright.
- JM: Okay. Not many of them.
- AF: How many?
- JM: I would say about a dozen.
- AF: Okay. What else did you find in there?
- JM: Ah, in there I found a few more sexual devices, leather. That would wrapped around the genitalia of a male.
- AF: Okay. What other types of devices?
- JM: Ah, and, ah, and.
- AF: That you recall?
- JM: It looked like a, ah, a harness that would be all leather that, ah, would be almost like suspenders but a little bit more and would cover the, the torso.
- AF: Hm, hm.
- JM: The torso.
- AF: Okay.
- JM: And, um, there was. Um, other than just some more thongs, leather, leather device thongs, that was it.

- AF: What was being made, if anything, for comments by anyone in the room once, when all these materials were being discovered? Anything at all that you remember?
- JM: Surprisingly very silent. That stood out clearly in my mind, that nobody's making a comment on this. You know, I'm the only one that, that's, you know sucking air here.
- AF: Yup.
- JM: Ah,
- AF: What, ah, what was your reaction to all this?
- JM: This was a bigger animal than I thought of looking for a Playboy.
- AF: What else was searched there that they and by whom? Any, anyone other than the three of you?
- JM: Jjust of three of us were there. We searched all the closets. We searched every, ah, sports jacket.
- AF: Where did those items go?
- JM: The ceilings, ah, we, ah, all those items were all placed in a bag.
- AF: Alright.
- JM: And everything was brought into the living room floor a central coordinating.
- RM: You also searched the attic.
- JM: We searched the attic.
- AF: What, if anything did you find in the attic?
- JM: I climbed the attic because I was, a little more younger and agile and I found at least a dozen boxes full, I mean I'm talking full. it took two people to carry down, full of tapes. Again, these tapes were, ah, commercial grade and they, ah, private. I mean there was no, ah, markings on them.
- AF: VHS?
- JM: VHS tapes.

AF: Okay.

JM: Which, ah, in, in Father Connors' living room, the size would be about fifteen by twenty, twenty two, ah, marked plus, you know furniture around, it covered the entire living room carpet space. This is how much pornography that was there.

KK: Who else lived in that rectory?

JM: Ah, there was nobody in residence at the rectory at that time, just Father Connors.

RM: Okay. The question that, um, Mr. Fowler asked you earlier with, did, you really respond to was, what was your reaction to all this? You're finding sexual devices, things that could be homemade pornography, commercially produced pornography in huge quantities Seamus.

JM: What the hell's going on here? What, what, what is this all about? Ah, the, here's a priest that I have known, he was my pastor for a year. I never had any indication at all this guy had this type of lifestyle. Ah, and then secondly, he's a priest. Why is a priest doing this? Or what would they have knowledge of all this, you know what's this all about? But then, thirdly Monsignor Quinn doesn't seem to be, it's business as usual. It doesn't seem to have any type of emotion connected to it.

RM: But,

KK: Were you in a position to voice any of those concerns at the time?

JM: I said, wow this is a lot. And there was no comment.

AF: Father Clinton ever make a comment that you can recall?

JM: The only, ah, comment I recall him stating would be, um, just like, ah, you know, let's, let's get this stuff outta here.

AF: And I, I think I asked this but you don't have, do you have any idea at all how Monsignor Quinn found out, that he needed to go to the St. Pius, ah?

JM: I don't. I could surmise now I don't.

AF: Ya.

JM: Did not then.

- AF: Surmise.
- JM: I surmised that as soon as I called Clinton, that I would imagine that, ah, ah, Clinton would call Quinn.
- AF: Okay. Once all these materials were placed in the central location of the quarters, what occurred with those materials?
- JM: What occurred is that, ah, ah, Don Clinton took his car, a very large car and moved it into the garage. Closed the garage door and then the three of us brought all the, ah, ah, the tapes and everything we found there and we placed it into, ah, oh it was placed in the car. I just brought it down. I was being like the, the strong guy bring it down to the living room. I didn't place it in that car itself but I brought it down (unintelligible).
- AF: Who did that?
- JM: That was Quinn and that was, ah, Clinton. But right off the garage is the kitchen and everything was brought in there. Making sure that the other side of the door was his secretary. So.
- AF: And, was secretary ever see any of these materials?
- JM: Not to my knowledge.
- AF: Okay. And, I, I, I don't expect you to possibly or, or eve, even know the answer to this.
- JM: Sure.
- AF: But at least based on your knowledge of the law, did you see anything there that you thought was illegal?
- JM: Um,
- AF: That you described? Or illegal to possess?
- RM: Answer this question two ways, okay? First answer it the way that you were thinking, ah, the, that morning in November and then you can answer it (unintelligible).
- JM: Well I, I could.
- RM: Cuz obviously we've educated you a little bit.

- JM: Well one of the things I saw that, ah, I, I, ah, was in the bathroom, ah, Viagra. You know what would a priest be doing with Viagra? You know, more, you know, ah, and secondly it's like, well where would he get this? How would he get this you know? Um.
- AF: Was it in a prescription bottle or was it, ah
- JM: It would, it, my dad's a pharmacist so, and I know prescriptions and, and this was in a prescription bottle but it didn't seem to come from our local pharmacy, didn't come from, ah, Safe Rite, or Rite Aid.
- AF: Do you remember whether or not the prescription was in, ah, Father Connors' name? Was his name on the, ah, bottle?
- JM: Ah, that I don't recall.
- AF: Okay.
- JM: I don't recall that.
- AF: Did, I wanna back up one other question.
- JM: Sure.
- AF: Did you, after what happened, was that computer ever brought out and placed in
- JM: No it was not, it was never, I was, it was told never discussed, ah, to disconnect it. That Monsignor Quinn would handle that.
- AF: Okay. Did it leave the building that day? That, that, to your knowledge?
- JM: To my knowledge, ah, no. To my knowledge.
- AF: Once all these materials were loaded into Father Clinton's vehicle,
- JM: Right.
- AF: where did it, what, what happened then?
- JM: Father
- AF: Where did it go?

- JM: Father Clinton was gonna take those as he states, stated to be destroyed.
- AF: Did you hear Father Clinton receive any instructions from anyone on what to do with these materials or how to dispose of them?
- JM: No. Father Clinton came, eh, at, volunteered this information without Monsignor Quinn's, nobody's prompting.
- AF: Okay.
- KK: And all of the things that you've listed of taking out of those personal quarters, the, the video tapes, the clothing articles, the sexual devices and now Viagra, is there anything else amongst those items that were specific?
- JM: Ah, ya, ah, an anal nitrate was found in the medicine cabinet. But we even, ah, we emptied the medicine cabinet and put it in a bag, a plastic bag anything for you know vitamins or whatever just so that it was cleared.
- KK: Okay. And amongst all of the, the things that you saw in the, ah, personal quarters did you ever find anything like a diary or a journal or anything, um, handwritten that, ah, Father Connor may have been keeping a
- JM: Nothing.
- KK: keeping a journal?
- JM: I did not find any of that, none of that.
- KK: You know it's, ah, always possible that it could have been on the computer but,
- JM: Correct.
- KK: anything handwritten?
- JM: Right.
- RM: Well, wasn't there, Seamus, a part of the residence that Father Quinn personally searched and, and directed you away from and, and that he searched in private?
- JM: That was, well, it, it was my understanding that he, ah, he did search an area and that was a couple of rooms off. They were not in the private area. Um, and that was in another bedroom.

AF: How was it?

RM: There's one more little.

JM: Yup.

RM: There, there was a desk in the residence too, is that right?

JM: Yes. That was downstairs in, ah, the main office. Ah, he had a, a very large desk. Ah, Father Connors did, and he searched all of that.

RM: He, who?

JM: Meaning Monsignor Quinn. We're not allowed to be in there at that time.

AF: When you say you weren't allowed to be in there, were you specifically told that you weren't allowed to be in there?

JM: I'll handle this down here you guys stay upstairs and make sure you get everything all covered.

AF: Okay.

JM: So you know.

KK: Is that the only time that the three of you were separated? Up

JM: Yes.

AF: Once the materials were collected, Father Clinton said he was taking them to be destroyed. Did he say where he was taking them?

JM: No, he did not. But I know that at that time Father Clinton was stationed, ah, in a parish in Concord.

AF: And I assume that this was the day after Father Connors' death, was still the, the day after.

JM: Um, well he died at three well, ya.

AF: (Unintelligible).

JM: Yes, so that morning.

AF: We're looking at the same day?

JM: Right, the same day.

AF: Okay. Alright. Did at some point Father Clinton leave with the materials?

JM: No. I left first.

AF: Alone?

JM: I left alone.

AF: Ya.

JM: Cuz I had my own vehicle.

AF: Alright, where did you go?

JM: I went back down to my parish, down in Jaff, ah, down in Salem.

AF: Were you ever asked to go anywhere to help to dispose of these materials?

JM: No. Never.

AF: Okay. Who did that to the best of your knowledge?

JM: To the best of my knowledge the, ah, ah, Father Clinton.

AF: Okay. What happened, where did Monsignor Quinn, how did he leave first?

JM: I don't know. I don't know.

AF: You don't? Was he still there when you left?

JM: Yes, he was.

AF: Who was there when you left?

JM: Clinton and, ah, Quinn.

AF: How did, how was it that you happened to leave? Were you told that you could leave or?

JM: Ah, Monsignor Quinn indicated thanks gentlemen for your help. And you know, we're, we're all, we're all set here. And remind you I was dog tired because I was up er, early, um, after the phone call.



- AF: What time approximately was this, that you left?
- JM: I would say I was back at the rectory by (sigh) I wanna say eleven thirty or so because my housekeeper was, ah, getting, ah, lunch prepared.
- AF: And, um, after you left,
- KK: Coming back. Can I ask him?
- AF: Ya sure, sure.
- KK: When you left, were you given any kind of directives or instructions, ah, any, anything said to you?
- JM: Nothing, nothing was indicated at all to me, there was no direction, there was, ah, nothing whatsoever, nothing indicated I just, was left and that was it.
- AF: Were you told to keep your mouth shut once you left there?
- JM: No. I was not.
- AF: Okay. Were you ever told to keep your mouth shut?
- JM: No. I was not.
- AF: Okay. Um. Go head Kath.
- KK: When you got back Salem, did you tell anybody about what you had just been through?
- JM: Yes. I told, ah, Pastor, Father Dan Lamont the extent of what we, what we had found.
- KK: And what was his reaction to what you said?
- JM: Um, he was quitely distressed over it. I.
- KK: In what way?
- JM: Um. I think emotionally he was shaken. He wasn't crying, but you could see there was, ah, he came to, got misty eyed. And, um, wanted to indicate to me he says you know that, ah, he still was a good priest, and, and focus on that.
- KK: So what do you think he was upset about?

- JM: I can think, ah, that, ah, he was upset over that the, this man had, ah, had this situation that he created or had. But also I think he was upset cuz, um, ah, he had known the man. I don't know if he had knew about his lifestyle but known of his ministry. And, ah. I think he was upset too because, ah, I was exposed to this.
- KK: Was
- JM: Being a young priest and seeing this.
- KK: Did he express in any way that he was upset with the way things had been handled?
- JM: No. Not at all.
- KK: Did he make any comments to you about his knowledge of whether that had been done before for someone else?
- JM: No. He did not.
- KK: And did he give you any advice about how to deal with what you were
- JM: Put it to.
- KK: trying to deal with?
- JM: Put it to prayer. Put it to prayer and he said that anytime I was struggling with it, I can go to him. You know. Other than that that was it.
- AF: Where? Do you know today where all those materials went?
- JM: Somewhere up in Concord.
- AF: How do you know that?
- JM: Ah, through my, ah, attorneys and investigation.
- AF: Okay. Do you know, where specifically in Concord they went? Those materials?
- JM: Not, not specifically.

- RM: We have a police report that, ah, we provided to Paul Brodeur that says and I'll, I've try to quote it it said all the pornography materials were transported to Diocese offices in Concord and destroyed at the order of the church.
- AF: Did Father Clinton or Monsignor Quinn ever comment to you about what happened to those materials after you loaded them in Father Clinton's car?
- JM: No discussion about the incident at all.
- AF: At all?
- JM: Nothing.
- AF: Never took place?
- JM: No.
- AF: Go head Kathy.
- KK: Did family ever contact you, ah, about the, well let me back up and ask him first, another question first. Was, ah, the living quarters left in some sort of disarray because of this search?
- JM: No. It was noth, nothing like the F, ah, the FBI or the Mafia coming in. No, anytime, anything that was displaced, ah, the, the bed was, what was turned over was put back in an orderly fashion. All the drawers were put back. And, ah, everything was gone through thoroughly but, ah, nothing would have like disarray.
- KK: Okay. Did any family members approach you and ask you about something that maybe they had looked for in his residence and didn't find?
- JM: No. Not at all.
- AF: That, that's, that reminds me. At some point you handed over some medications to the, ah, police, is that correct?
- JM: Ah, there was some, ya, I think I did, didn't I?
- RM: Yes, ah.
- JM: Ya.
- AF: What did you hear? What did you hand over?

- JM: I believe it was. It was, um, container, ah, unmarked pills.
- AF: Okay. And was that at their request or was that something that you did?
- JM: No. That was at their request.
- AF: Okay. Ah, did, did you ever offer any information to the police about your discoveries at, ah, Father Connors?
- JM: No. I did not.
- AF: Okay.
- KK: Did anyone from Diocese ever approach you after this incident to discuss it?
- JM: Nothing. No where, no how. And that's what I thought was really strange.
- RM: There's one, I, I wanna make sure we don't leave it confused, at, at least two police officers were actually present in the rectory at some point prior to the arrival of, um, um, Quinn um, and, ah, Clinton. And they've made a telephone call to Gino Nigro explaining to Gino what they had in the apartment, what they had discovered and, um, asking him whether or not he wanted to see any of this stuff or whether any of it should be seized. Nigro has concluded that, ah, the presence of Viagra, the cardiac condition gave him the cause of death wasn't necessary for him to carry this investigation on any farther.
- AF: Okay.
- RM: I presume that because the possessor of all the porno is deceased that there was probably not grounds for a criminal investigation and that was the call that was made.
- AF: And I think Kathy asked you this but you have not had any discussion at all since with, Clinton or Quinn about what took place that day?
- JM: Nothing.
- RM: Or with McCormack?
- JM: Nothing, not with any Diocese official at all, no.
- AF: Okay.
- JM: No other priests.

- RM: Ev, ever to your knowledge an investigation conducted at the bishop's direction, Quinn's direction or the direction of any senior Diocese official around this circumstances of the death of Father Connor?
- JM: To my knowledge, no.
- RM: Or the possession of large amounts of sexual paraphernalia?
- JM: To my knowledge, no.
- AF: Did you yourself ever initiate or try to bring it up with Father Clinton or Monsignor Quinn or anyone?
- JM: No. No, I did not.
- AF: Okay. Kathy?
- KK: When, was there any, ah, action on your part through discussion, ah, or meetings with anyone about trying to follow up on that statement that was made that we've done this before?
- JM: No.
- KK: Do you have any idea who that related to?
- JM: I have no idea, at this point. But you know, in retrospect it's like well if you've done it before then you know, once, twice, numerous times.
- AF: What is your knowledge, ah, ah, are you having anything else Kathy?
- KK: Hm, not, not in that vien, no.
- AF: No? What is your knowledge about, do you have any knowledge at all on how the Diocese reacts in a general sense when it comes to transfers of priests, who may be accused of, ah, certain improprieties with children or improprieties, ah, at, at all?
- JM: I have a general knowledge, but limited general knowledge. And that would be that, ah, once someone has an accusation, the bishop would call them in, present them with, ah, set accusation and then, um, make the, ah, provisions to have them transferred. Quite quickly within a twenty-four period.
- AF: Transferred.
- JM: Hey they, um.

AF: Explain that.

JM: A transfer would be removal of where the person is assigned to and place them in another parish. There'd be a temporary assignment, they'd be on administrative leave.

AF: Would there be any consideration, to your knowledge of how the church works, would there be consideration, as to this transfer to try to keep the accused out of, ah, contact with, ah, let's say, teenagers or, or children?

JM: I don't know what their, what their policy would be or how they do that. no.

KK: Would they known to have happened in your career?

JM: I have, yes, I have.

KK: Are you at liberty to tell us

JM: Sure.

KK: who that involved?

JM: There was a John Poirier. Who when I was a deacon was, ah, stationed by there as an associate and, ah, an accusation from years back was brought forth and therefore he was transferred and put in, ah, isolation, ah, with, ah, on administrative leave and he was put in another parish.

KK: And that was for a sexual allegation?

JM: Yes, that was.

KK: Was it children?

JM: With a, um, minor. Um. Somebody under, uh, under twenty one.

AF: Just for the record too, you, and I wanna make sure this is clear.

JM: Yes.

AF: You are not on vacation based upon any allegations of, of what, of that nature? Sexual in nature? Is that right?

JM: Correct. There's no allegation.

- AF: You are there because of a problem, perceived problem with, ah, with the Diocese and the way things have been handled, ah, through an, ah, as it pertains to administrative things with you, is that correct?
- JM: Correct.
- AF: Do you wanna make it, make that (unintelligible)?
- RM: Has there ever been an allegation against you for any sexual impropriety at anytime in your life?
- JM: No.
- RM: Has anybody ever complained at all about the way that you have related interpersonally on any grounds you could remotely describe as sexual?
- JM: Ah, when I was in, ah, in Salem, ah, we were painting the school. And that at one time, ah, a, the kids were fooling around and they were in the elevator and they were writing pornog, not pornography, they were writing, ah, swears, ah, you know fuck you and you know this and that. And with, ah, blue paint. And I got these guys together and I said you gotta knock it off and they gave me, one kid gave me lip and I says hey bite me. And that was the extent of it.
- AF: Okay.
- RM: Okay.
- AF: Kath.
- KK: Let me go back to, ah, John Poirier.
- AF: Ya, that's probably the same.
- KK: (Laughing) Um. In what year was that incident with John Poirier?
- JM: Ah, that would have had to have been about twenty six years ago, or so.
- KK: And how did you know about that?
- JM: I knew that because that, ah, became light in, in the paper.
- AF: Ya.
- KK: So that, ah, your information about John Poirier is not based on first-hand knowledge?

- JM: No, it is not. Even when I was living with him I did not know there was any situation.
- RM: You, you'll find that Seamus doesn't have any first-hand knowledge of how these things were done, back in, I, I may have resources to put at your disposal, that would help you in that regard.
- KK: Okay. So you don't have first-hand knowledge about anyone's transfer due to an allegation of sexual assaults.
- JM: That's correct.
- KK: Or sexual inappropriate behavior with a minor.
- JM: That's correct, I'm not aware of any that.
- KK: Okay. Alright. Well that just wipes out a whole bunch of questions I just had.
- JM: Okay.
- AF: I, I, I think I'm all set unless you have some (unintelligible) ya.
- KK: Is there anything that you think we should know about that we haven't asked you about?
- RM: Good question. A great question.
- JM: Um. I don't think so, I, is, ah, again this Father. ah, Connors' situation was greatly disturbing. Um, to me, ah, as, as a priest and to thinking, ah, that, you know, the deviant nature of this, ah, just, ah, it's just, it was overwhelming.
- KK: Okay.
- JM: Tremendous.
- AF: I have one quick question. Did anybody guard the doors or were the doors locked while you were doing all this searching?
- JM: The doors were locked behind us.
- AF: Okay.
- JM: Ya, behind us. The, ah, and then, the only other contact I had with the Diocesan official is the day of Father Connors', his funeral which was held at



St. Pius because he was the pastor there. Many Diocesans were there and whenever a priest dies it's customary that all priests show up, ah, in reverence and as I was walking, ah, along, um. I was, ah, hailed by Monsignor who was killed in a motorcycle accident.

KK: Bolduc.

JM: Baldwin Bolduc and he said you're gonna be sitting up at the sanctuary and I said well how is that. He said it's customary that all the associates of the priest who died, they sit in there. And I was his last associate, Father Connors' associate, so I sat up in the sanctuary, ah, during the entire funeral liturgy. After that I saw, um, Bishop, um, ah, Christian, Frank Christian and I went up to him and I says you know I said, ah, I'm a team player. And that's all I said to him. And he didn't look at me, didn't, ah, other than just stone faced, didn't say anything, there was nothing and no discussion since.

KK: Why did you feel the need to approach him and make that statement?

JM: Cuz he's the director of personnel for all priests and just saying you know what, you know, I'm a good guy here.

KK: And did you ever get the feeling from people that they were watching you to see whether you. . .

END OF SIDE A

SIDE B

AF: Okay, ah, this is Investigator Anthony Fowler, New Hampshire Attorney General's Office. We had to switch the tape over to Side B. It's, ah, 2:16 p.m., ah, by my watch. Same people are present, ah, as, ah, originally introduced on Side A of the tape. Ah, we are continuing the interview with, ah, Seamus MacCormack and I think, ah, Detective Kimball has a question.

KK: Yes, this kinda goes back to what you were telling us in the very beginning about, what brought the medical examiner's office to call you in the middle of the night to let you know about, ah, Father Connors' demise. You said it was customary to have a business card of another priest in your suit coat pocket or something like.

JM: No. I, I said it was customary for any priest to have a business card.

KK: Oh okay.

- JM: And, and I was proud being an associate and new, new priest hey look it I've got business cards I hand 'em all over the place. So.
- KK: So that would explain how your card being, um, Father Connors' last associate, might have been in his coat pocket and they would have called you?
- JM: I would imagine, yes. I would imagine so.
- KK: Alright. Does Father have
- RM: Did you ever have the impression Seamus, that, because you called Clinton and told him that you had identified the body, that Clinton and subsequently others to whom we may have spoken, presumed that you were sexually engaged with Father Connor at the time of Father Connors' death?
- JM: I, ah, made that assumption myself that maybe somebody would think that, ah, you know if I identified the body if it.
- KK: At that time or later you made that assumption?
- JM: Later on, later on that somebody would associate, guilt by association, you know.
- RM: And, um if they had made that conclusion, months later when you were vocally criticizing the church and the way that the church was handling the sex scandal,
- JM: Hm, hm.
- RM: Would provide an explanation to you for certain events which occurred in your life wouldn't it?
- JM: Yes, it would.
- RM: Okay.
- AF: Why are you here?
- JM: I'm here to do the right thing.
- AF: What do you mean?
- JM: I'm here to tell a story of what's, ah, as an apparent cover up. Um, there's a definite, um, defamation of my character, ah, wrongful termination, ah, there's a humiliation that goes along with this. Ah, but, it, it's apparent that there's,

ah, the higher ups meaning those in Diocesan office who, ah, Monsignor Quinn and associates, ah, have hidden something and it doesn't appear to be legal, illegal. And, ah, if, if anything, immoral. And, ah, that's not what a shepherd should be doing for the Diocese. Shepherds should be leading and healing, not hiding and hurting.

KK: When, ah, you were in preparation for the priesthood, did they, anyone, ah, in the Diocese or any of your instructors, ah, give any direction to seminarians on matters of, ah, sexual inappropriate conduct?

JM: When we were in seminary we had, ah, classes you know, that you had to take you know, human sexuality but, ah, also psychologically, how do you handle yourself, and how do you work appropriately, interpersonal relationships with one another, what's appropriate, what's not appropriate. So that was covered in our master's program.

KK: Okay. And, um, did you ever get any input like kinda off-the-record as far as, well, if you find yourself in a bind, this is who you can go to or this is what you should do?

JM: Um, off the record I would say that there was a definite element of an old boys network. That, ah, if you were a good seminarian and you know you get the, you get the nice summer assignments and you'd be with, ah, the outgoing priests and you wouldn't be stuck up in Woodsville, you know. You'd be if Manchester.

KK: That's God's country.

JM: I know it is, I, so isn't Jaffrey.

KK: I know.

JM: But you, you know you would, you would have the, the plum assignments and you'd be this seminarian that would be, ah, in various ceremonies throughout the Diocese, highly visible.

KK: Hm. Was there anyone that everybody kinda knew spread the word that if you got in a jam go to this person, ah, in particular, to help you out?

JM: There was never any name, never any name given.

KK: Okay.

JM: No.

- KK: Alright, alright. Ah, and just in general, if you could help us to understand a little bit better about when a transfer occurs, ah, for a priest, and I know they occur every few years for some
- JM: Right.
- KK: sometimes others a little
- JM: Right.
- KK: more quickly, some others maybe
- JM: Hm.
- KK: a long time between transfers. But, in general, what kind of documentation is there? Is there a letter to you? Is there a letter, hm, whatever?
- JM: There, there is, ah, what happens, ah, once it's decided that this person would be, ah, transferred, advisory board would advise Bishop Christian and then that would be discussed with greem Brish, Bishop Christian and Bishop McCormack. Once that's decided, ah, you'd be informed by both bishops, mainly Bishop, ah, Christian first because he's the, ah, vicar for clergy.
- AF: Ya.
- JM: Personnel.
- KK: Like a personnel director kinda?
- JM: Right, personnel.
- KK: Hm, hm.
- JM: And then, ah, Bishop, ah, McCormack would call ya in and then, ah, would indicate, you know thank you for your previous assignment and this is where we'd like to have you go if you agree with that. Then there would be documents stating you're transferred for once place to another and then you would sign it. And then, ah, that would be put in your personnel file.
- KK: So it's like a contract almost?
- JM: Pretty much, yes.
- KK: Alright. And that's, that stays in your personnel file?

- JM: Any documentation stays in your personnel file. And you have the right to that anytime.
- KK: Okay.
- AF: To your knowledge, how many files are there in the Diocese, that pertain to priests, and their service to the community, the state of God?
- JM: To my knowledge there's one file per priest.
- AF: One file per priest? To your knowledge?
- JM: To my knowledge.
- AF: Okay.
- KK: Have you ever asked to look at yours?
- JM: Three times. I was denied three times.
- RM: Have you ever seen yours?
- JM: No. I have not.
- RM: Who'd you ask?
- JM: I asked Bishop McCormack three times.
- KK: And that is over your current situation?
- JM: Hm, that's correct.
- KK: Okay.
- AF: Anything else?
- KK: Um. Is there anyone in particular that you think we should speak with that would have information relative to our task in this mission of, um, investigating the Diocese of Manchester for any criminal liability involving the, ah, sexual abuse of children?
- JM: I don't know.
- RM: I, I actually think I'm gonna be better at answering that question.

KK: Okay.

RM: Than Seamus.

KK: Alright, well I just would like to know from your

JM: Ya, what my point.

KK: what your stand?

JM: I don't, I don't know.

KK: You don't know of anyone.

RM: There's nobody that you and I haven't talked about?

JM: No.

KK: Okay.

AF: Where is Father Clinton now?

JM: He's stationed at St. Bernard's Parish in Keene.

AF: Keene?

JM: Keene.

AF: Where is, ah, ah, Monsignor Quinn? Is he still around?

RM: Diocese headquarters.

JM: In, in the Chancellery Office office.

AF: Okay.

JM: And he does have weekend ministry but I couldn't tell you which.

AF: And you don't remember the secretary's name?

JM: I do not.

AF: Okay.

KK: Anything else that you wanna ask us?

JM: Um.

KK: We've asked a lotta questions.

JM: Ya. Ah, no, not at this time I, I appreciate the chance to, um, to answer questions and be vocal.

KK: Alright, well we appreciate your telling us what you did, and your cooperation.

JM: Thank you.

KK: And time.

AF: Alright I'm gonna end this interview, it's, ah, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2002, at 2:23 p.m. by my watch. Ah, this is the end of the interview with, ah, Mr., Father Seamus MacCormack.

END OF SIDE B

END OF TAPE

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