

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM

TO: File

FROM: Father Chuck Lienert

SUBJECT: A Conversation with K [REDACTED] A [REDACTED]

DATE: April 28, 1989

- 1) I met with Mr. K [REDACTED] A [REDACTED], who had contacted me earlier, on April 22, 1989. He wished to speak with me concerning Father Rocky Perone, CSP, who was at St. Philip Neri parish in the early '50's. He had informed me previously that Father Perone had sexually abused him and had asked me to find out where Father Perone was, whether he was alive and whether he was still a priest.
- 2) I informed him that Father Perone was still a Paulist priest, that a year and a half to two years ago the Paulists had received a complaint from someone who had been abused by him at St. Philip Neri in the early '50's. They had sent him to a treatment program at St. Luke's Hospital, that he was currently in after care and living in Texas. He was living in a parish. The pastor knew of his problem and was supervising him. He was not allowed to have any contact with any children.
- 3) Mr. A [REDACTED] told me that Father Perone had used the Confessional to initiate his sexual abuse. When he was in the eighth grade, he had gone to Confession and confessed something like impure thoughts. The next day Father Perone asked him to come into a room and to take down his pants and show him exactly what happened and he had fondled him briefly. Father Perone told him that that was his responsibility as a priest. Later after he reached puberty, he confessed masturbation to Father Perone. Father Perone again afterwards came and told him that he was as a priest responsible to help children with sexual matters. He initiated a sexual relationship that lasted about six years.
- 4) I asked Mr. A [REDACTED] what motivated him to call me when he did a couple of months ago. He said that he had been thinking about it and that he felt some responsibility toward other people to ensure that this kind of thing did not happen. He also indicated that he wasn't certain how much it had

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effected him. He thought that it hadn't. But when he talked about it, it was very difficult. So he believed that it may have had more of an effect than he realized.

- 5) He told me that while he was at St. Philip Neri, Sister Patrick Ann Mary, a Holy Name nun, had asked him whether Father Perone had abused him. He denied it at that time. Also, his aunt or a family relation had asked him about the same time whether Father had abused him and he denied it. She again asked him on her death bed. This was after the Tom Laughlin affair. She asked him again whether Father Perone had ever done anything like Father Laughlin.
- 6) At Mr. A [REDACTED]'s request, I gave him the name and address of Father Gallagher, the Paulist superior. He indicated that he might want to contact him and find out whether anything had been done for the other victim or victims who had reported to the Paulists.
- 7) I asked him how I might help him. He wanted to know what we did with priests who abused children. I explained the process of investigation and removing the priest from the parish and getting therapy for him and making a determination whether he could continue in ministry. Also I explained that we attempt to assist victims with counseling. He asked me whether we made it public. I said we had not had occasion, but at the Archdiocese of Seattle, if they feel in the individual case that it would be helpful to victims or potential victims, they announce it in the parish and offer to provide assistance.
- 8) Mr. A [REDACTED] told me that he really was concerned principally about helping other victims. He believes that the best way to do this is by publicity. He gave me a written statement which he thought he might want the diocese to make public in some way. However, he wished to speak with his family before he would request that the Archdiocese make this public in some way. He said he was not certain exactly how that should be done, whether it ought to be announced in some way at St. Philip Neri parish or be put in the newspaper.
- 9) He asked me what the legal responsibility of the diocese was. I told him that I was not competent to advise him about that since I was not a lawyer. He told me that he had not seen a lawyer, but he had thought about it. He also said he didn't have a desire to press criminal charges against Father Perone or even hurt Father Perone in any way.
- 10) I gave him my card and invited him to call me after he had a chance to think about it more.

CJL:gg