

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM

TO: File

FROM: Father Chuck Lienert

SUBJECT: Telephone Conversation with Father Gallagher from the Paulist Provincial House

DATE: March 21, 1989

I spoke with Father Gallagher on March 20 concerning the allegation I had received from K. A. that Father Rocco Perone had sexually abused him at St. Philip Neri Parish sometime in the years between 1951 and 1957. Father Gallagher gave me the following information:

- 1) About a year and a half ago the Paulists received a call from a man in Portland who had been a student at St. Philip Neri during that same time frame. He complained that he had been sexually abused by Father Perone.
- 2) When Father Perone's personnel records were checked, there was no indication in the files that allegations or complaints had been made in the past.
- 3) Father Perone was called in. He admitted in a somewhat oblique way that he had sexually abused at least two students at St. Philip Neri. The reason that he admitted to more than one was when the events were described to him, he mentioned the name of a person he thought it was. In fact it was another person. Then he admitted to both. He also gave some oblique admission that he had been involved in some way with a relative after he had left St. Philip Neri.
- 4) The Paulists placed him in St. Luke's Institute for a six-month program. He responded well to treatment. They recommended that he be placed in an out-patient program.
- 5) Since he has left St. Luke's Institute, Father Perone has been in an out-patient program. Less than a year ago he

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was placed in a parish in San Antonio, Texas. Prior to the placement the bishop was informed and agreed to allow him to work in the diocese. Also, the pastor of the parish was informed and asked to monitor his behavior during the time that he is there. He is continuing to take out-patient treatment and he is not allowed to have any contact with young people.

- 6) Father Perone is in his late sixties and will most likely leave Texas this year. He would like to retire, although the Provincial feels that he should remain active in some capacity.

CJL:gg

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