

RM: Was it your belief that you were the only priest in the Diocese of Manchester that was engaged in occasional sexual contact with minors?

LL: No.

RM: Had you heard things about others?

LL: Not with minors.

RM: Okay, but you heard about other homosexual or heterosexual activity?

LL: Yes.

RM: A couple of quick ones here Leo. Did you ever have any sexual contact with [REDACTED] in Berlin?

LL: No.

RM: Or any place else?

LL: No.

RM: Was he ever present when you um were having sexual contact with any person?

LL: No.

RM: Did you ever know him to have sexual contact with any boys?

LL: I don't know.

RM: Do you know if he was ever alone in his room at the Rectory with any boys?

LL: Yes.

RM: On what occasion?

LL: He was playing chess with a boy up in the Rectory one day and ah I just never gave it a thought you know. It was just, it was a Sunday afternoon as a matter of fact. Just having a game of chess.

RM: So you knew that you were not the only sexually troubled or distressed priest in the Diocese, right?

LL: Yes.

RM: What else did you know? How did you know that?

LL: How do I know about?

RM: That you weren't the only person that had these difficulties?

LL: Well, I, I remember one time I, I stopped on the way home from, I was coming, going home to Concord to visit my parents and I stopped into Ossipee and ah I wanted to go to confession and.

RM: Stop. We're going step out just for a second.

AF: Sure. Okay, we're going off tape. Um, 12:54 p.m. by my watch. Okay, we're back on tape and it's still 12:54 p.m. by my watch after a brief recess in which Attorney McDaniel wanted to confer with Leo Landry. Same people present. Do we have your permission to continue to audio tape?

LL: Yes.

AF: Okay. You were talking about stopping off in Ossipee.

LL: Ossipee.

AF: For confession.

LL: Yes and I went to Father Gene Pelletier and ah I must have confessed one of the, a sin that I had done with the boys because afterwards you know he said well why don't you stay here for a while, stay around. Says you know and he brought out a bottle of booze, Hergland Manhattan mix.

KK: Laughter.

LL: Okay. And you know I wasn't, I really wasn't a drinker, but I had one, but he had a whole barrel and he really started to get smashed and then there was, your question, to answer your question he, he told me that he was alone in the Rectory and that they had just, he had just refurbished the Rectory and so forth, but there was a third floor up on the Rectory and that there had been some sexual parties going on with priests up there.

KK: In Ossipee?

LL: In Ossipee.

KK: And the name of that parish was, do you remember?

LL: No I don't.

KK: Okay. So Father Pelletier was telling you that there were parties.

LL: Yes.

KK: Did he tell you more specifically ah who the priests were having these with?

LL: I, I think, I think I have just one name that he mentioned, but I'm not positive okay and that was [REDACTED]

KK: Huh, huh. And who was this sexual contact with, do you know?

LL: Well, all I know is you know he didn't, he didn't go into detail other than the fact that there were sexual parties going on up there.

KK: I guess what I'm trying to ask more specifically then were the sexual parties involving adults or minors?

LL: Adults as far as I. I never thought of it in minors to be honest with you. He didn't say anything about kids or anything like that, no. I thought it was just priests. That's the way it was presented to me.

KK: Huh, huh.

LL: There were a group of priests that use to come up there you know. Now whether there was some other adults or not I don't remember.

KK: All right.

RM: What other events would make you think that you weren't the only priest in the Diocese with sexual issues? There was a concept Leo that was pretty well congealed in your mind that you weren't alone, right?

LL: Yeah.

RM: I mean you knew that there were others and perhaps many others.

LL: Well I, I knew that there was [REDACTED] was gay. I knew that [REDACTED] was that way. I remember Father [REDACTED] coming to St. Anne's Parish and he mentioned one time too that there was just a young priest over in St. Augustine's Parish was almost around the corner in Manchester and I all I remember is his name was [REDACTED] I don't have a last name.

KK: And what is it about this young priest?

LL: It was like. I don't know if he was like within a group of known gay people you know and ah you know. You know I remember one time too [REDACTED] [REDACTED] for some reason brought me to a store. I want to say Manchester. A clothing store and he introduced me to a couple of young clerk, 29, 30 years old and one of the guys you know shook my hand you know did that to me on my hand. How do I explain that?

KK: You're moving your middle finger back and forth.

LL: Yes.

KK: And where was that done on your hand?

LL: Well you know as I shook his hand.

KK: Yep.

LL: Well that was in the palm of my hand.

KK: Okay.

LL: Okay and I didn't know what to do you know and then afterwards he happened to speak to Father [REDACTED] and he came back and he apologized to me for doing that. Oh, I thought you were one of us.

RM: Was this like a secret hand shake?

LL: Well I thought it was pretty common. Common, I don't know.

KK: Did you know what that meant at that time?

LL: Yes I did know what it meant.

RM: What did it mean?

LL: Well it mean you know if he wanted to have sex with me.

RM: Okay. You were talking about Father [REDACTED]

LL: Yes.

RM: Do you know of any time that Father [REDACTED] might have made a voyage somewhere with someone?

LL: Yes. Ah, I remember one time that he went for, he went to New York City with [REDACTED]. Four days, five days or something like that. They just went to New York City. To New York City you know and ah I, I just remember I don't know what they did there or anything like that. I don't have any knowledge of what they did there, but you know I remember [REDACTED] [REDACTED] talking about some of the gay movies and using terminology like baskets you know they I think it's a reference to your privates.

KK: Huh, huh.

LL: And

KK: Did these activities involve anyone under the age of 18 that you know of?

LL: Far as I know it was just the two of them. Just the two priests.

KK: Okay.

LL: [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

KK: All right.

LL: That went down there. I don't know of anybody else and I never spoke, I never and even then I never even thought of [REDACTED] this way.

KK: Huh, huh.

LL: And he just. [REDACTED] was the type of guy that would do ... all over the place so if he went to New York City with Father [REDACTED] that you know I have no, it was not a big deal to me. I just never got that about that.

KK: Do you know whether any of the other priests were feeling as probably confused as you about what they were going through and were they seeking help for the Diocese or otherwise?

LL: I, I think [REDACTED] did.

KK: Can you tell me what you know about that?

LL: Yeah. Ah you know when I, when I left Berlin you know I told [REDACTED] you know that I was going to leave and so forth and we talked about that, about leaving and he, he says well I'm going to leave too and he took a year's leave of

absence and he went up to Whitefield and there's a, he taught English in one of the schools and I went to Lebanon and I taught in a grammar school so he stayed there for a year and I stayed over there and after he went back to the priesthood, but I know. I felt that he you know he, he wasn't sure of what he wanted to do with his vocation either as a priest. That I know, but he never really you know really delved into this specifically. He just took a year off.

KK: All right. Um, lets talk about how you did decide to leave. Did you have any other assignments other than Berlin?

LL: No.

RM: Lancaster?

LL: No.

RM: Lebanon?

LL: That was another priest.

RM: Oh, okay.

LL: Cause I think the question was assignment right?

KK: Right.

LL: Yeah.

KK: Did you go to any other parishes beyond Berlin?

LL: No.

KK: All right. Is that where you decided made the decision to leave the priesthood?

LL: Yes.

KK: All right. Can you tell us how you went through that process? What process do you have to go through to leave?

LL: Okay. I took a year's leave of absence from Berlin and I went to Lebanon to teach because they were really hard up and they were looking for teachers and I went there. In the process of living in Lebanon, okay, I got a phone call somewhere towards getting towards the end some place perhaps in the spring from my superior and the Stigmatine Fathers saying when you left the Diocese

you revert back to the Stigmatine Fathers. They have no more jurisdiction over you. Now, in that process of leave of absence you're suppose to contact us within six months and report back to us within six months and you haven't done it. Now if you don't do this you're going to be excommunicated so at that time that he called I says well, you know within days anyway you know there was that allegation in Lebanon and then I took, I says well okay this is my time, okay. I said I told the guy that I told the principal that I had been called back to the Stigmatine Fathers and I had to go, so I went back to Wellesley and as I said Wellesley I stayed there about 3 or 4 weeks and hey just didn't bother with me at all... Finally, finally after, after at least 3 weeks the ah, the ah Father Provincial, whose name is Father Charles Sinesi, S I N E S I. Father Sinesi came over to Wellesley and he says well we have to do something with you. Says so what do you want to do? And I says well if you want me to work here for you I said I'm not working for anyone of these pastors who are tyrants. I'm tired of these guys and I says I'll if you want I'll get a place on my own and you want me work for you do ministry and all that kind of stuff, I'll do it. So he says you can't do that because you're religious because you have poverty, chastity and obedience and he says you're only other choice is to leave. I said okay, fine so what do I have to do to leave? He says you have to write me a letter and he says if you write the letter he says make sure he says you put in it that you want to get married. Great, so I went upstairs, sat down and wrote a letter. He was still in the house. I brought it downstairs and here's my letter. He says fine. Says okay anytime you want to go you go ahead along as I got this letter Rome contact. You.

AF: What year was that?

LL: I think '70.

RM: Did you want to get married at that time?

LL: Yes.

KK: What made you decide to get married?

LL: Well I had, I had worked. [REDACTED] lost a boy in a car accident while I was up in Berlin. She lost her oldest boy along with three other boys were drowned.

KK: Huh, huh.

LL: They hit a bridge, one of those abutments that come down.

KK: Huh, huh.

LL: And two people were saved and four drowned and Father Bosa told me he says I want you to work with this family, okay, so I did. I, I worked with the family. I got them some money to help pay their milk bills and so forth like that, so I got to know [REDACTED] and I got to know the family and I liked her.

KK: Huh, huh.

LL: And I you know she was a German stonch woman and so forth and I you know, but I didn't have anything to do with her and then the, one of the boys, the youngest boy.

RM: Leo, slow down.

LL: Okay.

RM: Okay. We need complete questions. Everybody understands everything you're saying. You met [REDACTED] You didn't have anything to do with her sexually for some time, is that what you were saying?

LL: Yes.

RM: Okay.

KK: Did she have a husband at the time?

LL: Separated.

KK: Okay.

LL: He was an alcoholic.

RM: Okay, keep going.

LL: Okay. So I, I went I took I left the Stignatine Fathers then I went to Bristol and I worked for my brother in a, he had cardigan sport store up there at the time and so I would go back and forth to Berlin and ah court [REDACTED]

KK: Huh, huh.

LL: And I asked her after a year, I asked her the year, the year I taught, the first year I taught from '70 to '71 I think I was in New Hampton and then that year '71 or something like that. I've got to back up. I left in '74 and I was there three years so that would take me to '71, right?

KK: Yes.

LL: Okay, so I courted her and then after that I asked her to marry me and she said yes and so I asked the people down at New Hampton if I could have an apartment for you know I believe the oldest boy was going to be a senior and the youngest boy was freshman I think and the little girl, my [REDACTED] is was in about the 4th grade so I, I moved them down the second summer I was there. We got married up in Plymouth, Justice of the Peace and we stayed together two years in ah New Hampton. After which she was tired of it. I was tired of it and there was no future there so this job come up as the Department Chairman of Foreign Languages at Spaulding High School and I got it. I landed it and so she says I don't want to live in an apartment. She says I really would like to go look for a house. We can afford it and she says I'll work myself.

KK: Huh, huh.

LL: So we got, we got a house and ah lived happily ever after.

RM: When you were um you married [REDACTED] n what day?

LL: July 12th.

RM: 19

LL: 71 or 2.

RM: And we won't tell her you forgot the day.

LL: Has to be 2 because it's 30 years.

RM: Okay.

AF: I want to be clear on a few things here.

LL: Oh, sure.

AF: After you left your priesthood where did you go then?

LL: I went to ah Bristol, New Hampshire.

AF: Bristol, New Hampshire.

LL: Yeah.

AF: And what did you do there?

LL: I worked in a sporting goods store my brother owned.

AF: Okay. After Bristol?

LL: I was only there working just for a few months because ah Lou Jeneroy who was the Headmaster of the school of New Hampton happened to be in one day and he said, and I says Lou you got any positions up there for a French teacher. He says no he says I've got one for a Spanish teacher. He says oh I says I'm your man. Never taught Spanish before in my life.

AF: So after Bristol you went to?

LL: New Hampton.

AF: New Hampton and you taught there.

LL: Yes.

AF: Is that correct?

LL: For three years.

AF: For three years and after New Hampton where did you go?

LL: Rochester, New Hampshire.

AF: Where you're currently are?

LL: Yes.

AF: Okay.

JR: I have a question. Um, when you left the parish in Berlin, ah but prior to the time you went back to the Stigmatines in Wellsley, you said you were in Lebanon?

LL: Yes.

JR: And was there an allegation there?

LL: Yes.

JR: What was the nature of the allegation in Lebanon?

LL: It's, it's hazy you know.

JR: Huh, huh.

LL: To the best of my knowledge I don't remember touching anybody in that school, but I think I did you know. I remember a kid you know lying on the desk and they were watching a movie or something like that and his pants and I told him to fix his pants and he didn't and I said look I says your pants are open and I and I think I touched the pants and he went home and I think he told his mother and his mother came and says you know and that was at the same time as I told you that I got that call that I had to go back so I said okay, but I, I can't I don't remember you know. That was a very hazy year. That was a very difficult year, hazy year in my life.

RM: I want to make a jump forward. After you began to um court [REDACTED] who later became your wife, did you have any additional contacts with ah sexual contacts with boys for the duration of your life?

LL: Not that I, no. No.

AF: From the time that you left Stignatine.

LL: Yeah.

AF: Till you got married.

LL: Yeah.

AF: Were there any sexual contact with ah the young folks in that period anywhere?

LL: Not that I can remember. No.

JR: Um, moving back to Berlin for a second you had mentioned um three boys that you had contact with there and while you were discussing that um you were I think asking, answering Kathy's questions of how you got to know these boys and one of them. I can't remember who it was [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] you said his oldest brother knew Father Scruton.

LL: Yes.

JR: And you kind of pointed at me like I should know something. Um, why, why what is it about Father Scruton that you wanted to say um at that point?

LL: Well he's on the list of pedophile people in the Diocese.

JR: Huh, huh. What type, do you know the type of contact that um one of the boys at Berlin had had with Father Scruton or his brother had had with Father Scruton?

LL: I'm not, I'm not sure, but what I remember is this. Is after Father Scruton left it was like I'm not positive, but I think that oldest [REDACTED] went to Provincetown and I got the impression he was down there with other people you know.

JR: Did you get the impression that he was down there with Father Scruton after Father Scruton had left?

LL: No, not with Father Scruton, but I think.

AF: You're talking about Provincetown on the Cape?

LL: Yes.

AF: And being with ah homosexuals, Father, is that what you're talking about?

LL: Being with homosexuals, yes.

RM: Anybody from the church?

LL: Not that I, no. No I didn't want to get, no.

JR: I'm sorry.

LL: It's just like it sounded as though, it sounded like so the older brother was involved with Scruton, but I.

JR: Okay. Do you have any other knowledge other than the oldest [REDACTED] boy may have been involved with Father Scruton? Do you have any other knowledge of, with regard to Father Scruton in sexual contact with minors?

LL: Other than what's been in the paper.

KK: No first hand knowledge?

LL: No. No.

JR: Um, I have a couple more questions. You had mentioned earlier in our discussion that when you were recounting the dates you were in Somersworth you'd been reminded of that by Father Arsenault. Can you tell us when you

first had contact with Father Arsenault? I mean Father Arsenault I don't think was around until years after you'd left the Diocese. How did you become acquainted with Father Arsenault?

LL: Okay. In the newspaper that [REDACTED] His name was in the paper and it come, there was an allegation, he had been touched improperly by some priest, but he couldn't remember the name. A week or so later, time I don't know, the same article that was in the paper again that he had been touched and he didn't know who and I think a third time. The fourth time it come out, oh, we know who it was then [REDACTED] said and that's what the paper said [REDACTED] said Oh, he knows who it was it was Father Leo Landry because Father Leo Landry touched me you know.

KK: What paper was this in?

LL: Well I'm pretty, one of them was in the Manchester Union because along I think with that last article there were things in there that [REDACTED] said I did. There were three things that he said I did that are just so false that it's not even true, that it's not even funny. Now I, I, I admittedly said that I was involved with [REDACTED], but I did not and I swear to you I did not do those things that were in the paper.

KK: Do you know what was listed in the paper?

LL: Yes I oh, do I know. Do you want them?

KK: Yes, please.

LL: Okay. First thing he said I did was I took a group of boys upstairs on the third floor in the school and I disrobed them and I talked to them about masturbation. Doesn't say we did anything, but we talked to them about masturbation. Well, I don't know of a school that doesn't have a glass door. That never happened. That is the dumbest thing. That school was loaded with nuns. The second thing he said was that on for first Friday confessions the kids would come down by classes and in the middle of the hall there was a kneeler and that's true, but that part of it is true and he said the kneeler, the sometimes you can raise, there's a thing in the kneeler that you can raise to hear confession and I lowered it and I encircled the kids around the kneeler while I was hearing the confessions you know everybody could hear the confessions. No nun would even allow something like that. Nobody in their right mind would think of something like that and then the third thing was that he would serve mass and after mass I would take him to the Rectory and then I would have sex with him and then I would absolve him. Well, that's it's not impossible, you can do it, but you have, that has to be written up and sent to

Rome and you've got to receive your penance from Rome. There would be paperwork on something like that.

AF: For what Father? Explain what you mean.

LL: Okay. There has to be paperwork for, in order for my sin for having done that I would have to go to some priest, confess that sin that I absolved an accomplice.

AF: That's what I'm talking about him being absolved.

LL: Yeah, absolved, I absolved an accomplice and that I want you know I want to have that sin taken away. That would have to be, have to write, go to the Chancery get some paperwork done. That would have to go to Rome and then Rome would have to send, Rome would send you your pennants, so I, I don't know what the rules are today, but that's what I remember. That was the rules.

KK: And you're saying that never happened?

LL: No. No.

KK: Okay.

JR: Um, and roll this back into how you first came to know Father Arsenault and response to these articles.

LL: I'm sorry.

JR: In making these statements. It's okay.

LL: Yep, thank you.

JR: Any time.

LL: Well when this when my name came out, okay, that was the first place I called. I saw Father Paul Montminy at church because I go to mass every, I've been going to mass and communion every day for the last 8 years that I've been retired so I went to Father Paul Montminy oh you have to call ah Father Arsenault at the Chancery Office. He gave me the telephone number so I called and he was very nice and he says I says what do I do? He says well he says I want you to call Brad Cook and so I said all right and he gave me the number.

AF: Brad Cook being an attorney?

LL: He was the attorney for the Diocese.

AF: Right.

LL: Okay. So I ah I called Brad Cook and he says oh I've got, I says okay. He says ah I want you to think about I have an excellent lawyer and I will get in contact with him and he will contact you and so Mr. McDaniels one night called me up and he's going through his credentials and so forth and all and after he gave me his work and so forth and my only question was to him was who recommended you? And he said Brad Cook and I remember I took the phone and I went, ah like that and I haven't regretted it since.

AF: Father Arsenault.

RM: Let's get that typed up and distributed.

AF: What else did Father Arsenault say to you during that conversation?

LL: Oh, he said you know place your confidence in him and if there's, if you need money, if you need money ah we can help you. I said Father, you know, I didn't say it, but I wanted to say send the check now.

AF: Had the Diocese prior to that, prior to 30 years that you had been out of the priesthood had you heard a word from the Diocese about how you were doing or do you need money?

LL: No. Never.

KK: Did you explain to the Diocese when you asked for your leave of absence way back why specifically you wanted to leave?

LL: Ah, yes, yeah. Ah, there was I think his name was Ray, Father Ray LaPointe was working in the Diocese and I, I don't remember whether he called me and said I heard you're leaving and so forth like that and he says I just want you to think about it you know and he says why don't you come down and speak to Bishop Primeau and ah I says all right and I had all ready, I was already planning to leave so I came down and I visited Bishop Primeau and he didn't, he didn't really say anything to me at all. He says you know.

KK: Did you tell Bishop Primeau at that time because it was because of your continuing sexual contact with kids?

LL: No, no I did not. I just said I was leaving and he says all right. He says well you know he reminded me I want, my leaving that, that as far as jurisdiction is concerned I revert back to the Stigmatine Fathers.

KK: All right.

LL: And that's all he you know he asked me why and why I'm leaving and in a sense I said you know the pastors you know I just can't take these guys anymore.

KK: All right.

LL: I says you got, I remember him saying this to him. I says you know the system has got to be changed you know. You have to change the system and the problem is up here. You can't turn around and take all these young curits and send them into these guys and have these guys wail on them.

KK: When you left the Stigmatine Fathers did you tell them why you were leaving, specifically?

LL: No. No I didn't other than the fact you know there was, other than the fact that there was just nothing there that they were offering me, they didn't offer me any help. They didn't offer me anything so I you know there was nothing. I, got offered nothing. All I was told was that fine, if you want to leave write a letter and you can go.

KK: Okay.

JR: Let me break you into thought with a couple of questions. When you left the Diocese um, did you from the point you left, early 1970's onward did you receive any money from the Diocese?

LL: No.

JR: Have you received any type of retirement stipend from the Diocese?

LL: No.

JR: Or any um help benefit from the Diocese um between early 70's onwards?

LL: No.

JR: Now same questions with regard to Stigmatine's. Did you receive any money following your departure

TAPE TWO, SIDE A

AF: Okay, we're back on tape. Second tape, side A. This is the continuation of the interview with Leo Landry. This is Investigator Anthony Fowler, New Hampshire Attorney General's Office. Same people are present. It is 1:25 p.m. by my watch, September 4, 2002. And now we'll continue with the interview.

JR: Um, I had just asked whether you had received any um support from the Stignatines as you continued after your departure from that Order?

LL: About a year, a year or so afterwards, I received a thousand dollars. A check for a thousand dollars, which was customary to anybody who left the Order. That's it.

JR: That's it, so with regard to both since the early '70's have you ever received any money?

LL: No.

JR: Or any offer or money?

LL: No.

JR: Now when did you, when you talked to Father Arsenault in response to um statements that were made about you in the press um and Father Arsenault had talked about legal representation for you, when did that conversation occur?

LL: Day or two before I got in contact with, you got in contact with me.

RM: It would have been sometime after February 15th of this year.

LL: Somewhere in there.

JR: So late February, 2002?

LL: Yeah.

JR: Is when you talked to Father Arsenault?

LL: Yeah.

JR: And, and how is it that the subject of money came up in that conversation that if you need money we can help you?

LL: Oh, I think it was because of the fact that – good question. Um, you know in the process of putting that what we just discussed in the newspaper, those three things, okay. Father Arsenault, Brad Cook told me rather that you know that should have not been in the paper and if I wanted to I could have I think he said a two and a half or three and a half million dollar suit for him having put that in the newspaper. I don't understand it, but you know, but, but Arsenault you know, you know, I think I called him up again and reconfirmed that you know and don't talk to anybody.

JR: What, what let's take it piece by piece. You called up Arsenault again when, when did you call him again or why did you call him up again?

LL: To find out you know if it was you know can we go forward with this with my lawyer and he said yes. And I told him I had, ah I had ah him and I really called him up because I wanted to thank him.

JR: Huh, huh.

LL: And ah, and that's when he ah turned around and says you know refer all questions to the Chancery Office.

JR: Okay. Before you said, before you said Father Arsenault said don't say anything. When did he say don't say anything to you?

LL: I think in the second time, the second time that I called him.

JR: And when was the second time you called him? Was that also in February of 2002?

LL: Yes. Yes.

JR: And when he said don't say anything, what was it that he was referring to?

LL: Well with regards to the case. He wanted, if anybody calls you know and ask questions or something like that, refer everything to the Chancery Office.

JR: Okay. And when you said with regard to the case, what case was he referring to?

LL: To the allegation that was in the Manchester Union Leader with [REDACTED]

JR: Okay. The allegation, the sexual allegation that was made against you and reported in the Union Leader.

LL: Yes.

JR: Okay, did Father Arsenault ask you not to say anything about that allegation?

LL: Yes.

JR: And what did Father Arsenault instruct you to do if anyone asked you questions about that allegation?

LL: He said refer all questions to the Chancery Office.

JR: And indeed did you end up referring any questions about that sexual allegation against you to the Diocese Chancery Office?

LL: Did I tell somebody to call?

JR: Yes.

LL: Yes I did.

JR: And how did that happen?

LL: Because I got a call from one of the reporters on the Foster Daily Democrat.

JR: Huh, huh.

LL: And ah his name was Brad Morin.

JR: Okay.

LL: And he wanted to ask me questions and I says no I will not answer any of the questions and I also got a call the guy said are you Leo Landry and I said yes. Were you a former priest in Somersworth? Yes. I said well who are you. He says I'm working for a Mark Abramson and ah he says I want to ask you a couple of questions. I said no. I said I will not answer any question. I refer all questions to the Chancery Office and he hung up.

JR: And, and why did you refer those questions from the reporter and from Attorney Abramson's Office to the Diocese?

LL: Because that's what they told me to do.

JR: That's what Father Arsenault told you?

LL: Yes.

JR: Okay. Now, on the second occasion in February of 2002, when Father Arsenault talked to you and he said, well maybe this is the first occasion, if you need money we can help you. Which phone call was that? Was that the first phone call?

LL: That was on the first phone call.

JR: Okay. What was your understanding or what did Father Arsenault say to you that money was for?

LL: Well in case I couldn't pay for my fees for my lawyer fees then they would advance me some money.

JR: Okay. Did he offer you money for any other purpose?

LL: No.

JR: Um, and did you end up asking the Diocese for any money, any financial support with regard to this case or anything else?

LL: No I did not.

AF: Has the Diocese advanced you any money without you asking?

LL: No.

AF: At this point?

LL: No.

JR: Um, have you had any subsequent conversation after February of 2002, with Father Arsenault?

LL: None.

JR: Um, how about correspondence from the Bishop?

LL: None.

JR: None. Has anyone at the Diocese since that last, since that second February conversation with Father Arsenault, has anyone at the Diocese reached out to you whether in writing or by phone, by e-mail, fax whatever?

LL: No.

JR: Okay.

KK: Did you ever ask the Diocese to destroy any of their records that they might have had relating to your time as a priest in the Diocese?

LL: No.

KK: Do you know whether they have ever destroyed documents?

LL: I don't know.

KK: Okay. Do you know that there were documents in the first place?

LL: No.

KK: Anything relating to transfers that you had or your training or any, would they have kept documents like that on you?

LL: Well, in part of the conversation with Father Arsenault you know and I told him, I mentioned about that, that Somersworth thing and it just in the newspaper the allegation was from 1966 to 1976 that I had molested [REDACTED] you know. That was the first thing. It was in the newspaper and then I, I and that, that I you know was false and everything. Now I just forgot your question.

KK: Do you know whether they actually had documents on you as well as other priests?

LL: In one of the conversations, I think the second one, I think the second one Father Arsenault said mentioned to me about you know how foolish those allegations were that were in the paper and that it's impossible because he gave me the dates over the phone of the time I was in Somersworth. That's how I knew I was only there I think nine months and he says you were only there from and I forget the months, December to June or July or something like that, you know.

KK: Did you have any further discussion with him about the contents of what was in your file?

LL: No. He never mentioned a file.

KK: No, he didn't mention a file.

LL: Never. I have no knowledge of any file work or anything like that at all other than what he said on the phone.

KK: Would you have expected that there would have been some type of a personnel file for you since you were an employee basically of the Diocese?

LL: I, I never thought of it. You know I never thought of it in those terms.

RM: Can you explain if there's no file on you, no paperwork, how your name wound up on the list of 14 people that were disclosed to the public and to the Attorney General?

LL: I've got to have that question one more time.

RM: Okay. You said that there's no file, no paperwork that you've known of. You don't have any correspondence on any of the incidents in your past.

LL: Huh, huh.

RM: Um, your file was not included in the in a stack of files that I received from Mr. Cook. There were no documents about you whatsoever. The question is can you explain how your name wound up on that list of 14 people?

LL: I don't know. Never thought of it.

JR: Has Father Arsenault in that first or second conversation did he make any other promises to you or did he make any requests of you with regard to providing information to authorities or to your attorney?

LL: No.

AF: A follow-up to that during your conversation with Father Arsenault he indicated that all questions should be referred to the Chancery, is that correct?

LL: That is correct.

AF: Did he specifically at any time mention whether or not you should speak to any entity such as law enforcement or any other governmental agency and what you should do if you were contacted by such agency?

LL: No he did not.

AF: Okay.

LL: No.

KK: You answered the question earlier that since you left the priesthood you did not have sexual contact with minors?

LL: Yes.

KK: After that. Um, did you receive any kind of help to get you to that point because you have told us that you were in teaching positions where you would have been around kids.

LL: Yeah.

KK: Ah for the next 30 plus years.

LL: I really felt that through prayer and married life and raising a family it just, just wasn't there. It was a question of coming down from all that high intensity living and so forth and just working on my marriage and having a wife and I, I feel that she's my savior.

KK: Did you confide in her as to what had happened?

LL: Oh no.

KK: You have not.

LL: To this day she doesn't know a word. That would be, that would end it.

RM: Would be a catastrophe.

LL: Yes.

AF: Have you ever requested that the Diocese keep any records of you, any accusations confidential, Leo?

LL: No I haven't. I haven't asked them anything. You see I'm not, I just feel that you know other than the fact that I called the Chancery Office because Father Montminy suggested it. See, I never felt after I left the priesthood that I have anything to do with the Chancery Office. I'm not part of this you know. And it's just like you know it's like they're blowing me off and I.

KK: Is there anything that you think we should know about that we haven't asked you? We've asked you so many questions.

LL: Trying to think of some of the stuff that we talked about.

RM: I think the things that we covered today you covered. Don't look at me nothing comes to my mind. I'm not the witness.

AF: All right, well if we don't have anymore questions I'm going to end this interview. It is 1:42, I'm sorry 1:38 p.m. by my watch, September 4, 2002.

KK: Did you just think of something?

LL: Well I just, I just felt you know that I would ask about the tape itself.

RM: I'll deal with that after you're excused Leo.

LL: All right. I'm sorry.

AF: Ah, 1:38 p.m., September 4, 2002. This is the end of the interview with Mr. Leo Landry.

LEO LANDRY INTERVIEW

9 AF: This is Investigator Anthony Fowler of the New Hampshire Attorney General's Office, Criminal Justice Bureau. It is September 3, 2002. 1:06 p.m. by my watch. This is an interview with a Mr. Leo Landry. Present for the interview and I'm going to go around and just have everybody introduce themselves, but we are in the New Hampshire Attorney General's Office. We're in a conference room on the second floor and Mr. Landry I asked you prior to going on tape if we had your permission sir, to tape this interview. Do we have your permission to audio tape this interview, sir?

LL: Yes you do.

AF: Okay. All right, I'm going to go around the room and have everybody introduce themselves and then we'll start with some background information.

KK: I'm Detective Kathleen M. Kimball of the New Hampshire State Police.

LW: Laurie Woodaman, Legal Case Manager for the Law Office of Robert E. McDaniel.

LL: Leo Landry former priest.

RM: Robert E. McDaniel, counsel to Mr. Landry.

JR: Jim Rosenberg, Assistant Attorney General.

AF: Okay. Mr. Landry I'd like to start of by asking you sir, what your current address is? And if you would state your name again and spell your last name for us.

LL: Okay. Leo Landry. L A N D R Y. [REDACTED]

AF: And what's your date of birth, sir?

LL: December 11, 1929.

AF: And your phone number?

LL: [REDACTED]

AF: All right. And are you married, single?

LL: No, I'm married.

AF: And your wife's name sir?

LL: [REDACTED]

AF: [REDACTED] Okay, how long have you been married?

LL: 30 years.

AF: 30 years. Can you tell us where you were born and raised Mr. Landry?

LL: I was born and raised in Concord, NH.

AF: Um, when did you first become interested in becoming a priest Mr. Landry?
At what age?

LL: 17, 18 years old.

AF: 17, 18. Can you briefly describe to us your educational background, sir? Um, where you graduated high school and everything after that that lead up to ah your training.

LL: I graduated from St. John's High School here in Concord in 1948. Ah, I did a year of college because they gave me a football scholarship to New England College here in Henniker, New Hampshire and I left that school and worked for Naults Pharmacy for a little bit and then I entered the Seminary in Waltham, Massachusetts with the Stigmatine Fathers. Do you want that spelled?

AF: If you would.

KK: Please.

LL: S T I G N A T I N E. I finished my second year college with the Stigmatine Fathers and went to um ah Springfield, Massachusetts in the Novetiate, where you do a year of prayer and received a sutan and a collar so when you take your vows of poverty chastity and obedience. After that ah, year of novetiate, excuse me, they sent us to Rome, Italy to finish off on my schooling and I did six years in Rome. I did the two years of Philosophy and the four years of Theology and was ordained in Rome in 1958 in the Basilica of ah St. John Latterin.

AF: 1958, sir?

LL: Yes sir.

AF: Okay.

LL: And ah

AF: And you're ordained in Rome?

LL: Yes I was.

AF: Okay.

RM: How many languages do you speak?

LL: I speak Italian, French. I use to be able to speak Latin fluently. I have a smattering of Spanish. I have German. A little bit of German. I can do German words.

AF: Okay. Sir, after you were ordained as a priest, what, where did you go then?

LL: They sent us to ah Wellesley, Massachusetts and ah we had to do another year of Theology that just came out of the Vatican. It was a new year. They wanted us to do a fifth year of Theology and they made us teach school and ah they sent us out on weekend ministry.

JR: While you do a background I'm just going to step out and get ah a bottle of water. Do you want a bottle of water?

LL: That would be fine.

JR: Okay, great.

AF: Sir, ah, and I'm sure you're aware at some point I'm going to ask kind of some tough questions here today.

LL: I understand that.

AF: Um, and I'm sure Attorney McDaniel has, has filled you in on that ah so I don't want it to be a shock to you when we do ask some questions, but what I would do sir, is once. Let me ask you this once prior to ah being ordained as a priest, sir, did you have any sexual inappropriate sexual contact with ah minors, sir?

LL: I, I can't remember.

AF: You can't remember. Would it be um and again I'd like to have you think on that and please if you would and I know we only met a few minutes ago. You do not, Kathy's Det. We've been doing this for 23 years. She's been doing it I think for like 16 or 17. Don't be embarrassed with us. You don't have to be.

RM: You're not going to surprise anybody.

AF: You're not going to surprise us.

LL: I understand, but I'm trying, I'm just trying to think.

AF: Yep. Don't ah I don't want you to feel in any way shape or form that we're going to pre-judge or form any type of opinion. All we're looking for is, is the truth in information so don't feel like there is, there isn't anything Mr. Landry I don't think that you could tell us that.

LL: I know that.

AF: Okay.

LL: That's not what I'm afraid of. I'm afraid of giving the wrong answer.

AF: That's, that's

KK: Well if you're not sure of something then tell us you're not sure. Don't make something up or guess because you think we need a specific answer.

LL: Okay. His question was ah?

RM: Prior to the time that you became a priest did you have any kind of sexual contact with somebody who is a minor, which would mean someone under the age of 18.

AF: Correct.

LL: Well if I did – I think that regular boy, boy sex, people of my own age when I was younger I did yes.

AF: Okay so what you're saying is and I want to make sure we have this right is at some age, teenage years would you say?

LL: Well 13 and 14.

KK: Adolescence?

LL: Adolescence.

AF: So in adolescence you had some contact with, with other boys your age?

LL: Yes.

AF: What kind of contact was it?

RM: Let's play this out. When you had your first experience as an adolescent was that with another male or with another female or with both?

LL: No. My first experience was with myself, but then I think you know.

RM: But you don't count.

LL: I understand you know male.

AF: Male?

LL: Male.

AF: How many sir, and I know this is a tough, tough probably a um an unfair question, but how many, how many experiences would you say that you had during adolescence with other boys?

JR: Let me ask this. In these adolescent experiences, were these consensual experiences with other boys your age?

LL: Yeah. Yes.

RM: Great question.

JR: Okay.

KK: And what, what environment did this occur in?

LL: Well I can remember you know an occasion in ah you know where Beaver Dam is in back of Concord High School?

KK: Yes.

LL: Okay. I remember with a boy out there, but that was a mutual thing and we were very young.

AF: Huh, huh.

LL: And ah you know I remember, I remember in ah out we use to hang around with some of the kids on South Fruit Street.

KK: Huh, huh.

LL: The west enders. That was my gang and ah you know. Everybody at one time was smoking corn silk in a corn cob pipe and stuff and we'd all pull our pants down and stuff, you know, usual thing.

RM: If this, this would have been roughly at the beginning of the Second World War, is that right?

KK: Probably 68 years ago.

LL: Yeah, yeah.

AF: Okay.

LL: Somewhere around there I guess.

AF: Prior to um becoming ordained, Mr. Landry.

LL: Huh, huh.

AF: Did, were you required to do any type of psychological evaluation or anything like that by the church?

LL: No.

AF: At the time?

LL: No, none.

AF: None at all?

LL: None at all.

AF: Okay.

KK: How did you become interested in becoming a priest? You said that you started to think about becoming a priest in your later teens, but what sparked that interest for you?

- LL: Well, now that you just brought that up I just thought of something else. When I was in about the 7th grade or 8th grade my parents kind of mentioned that about being a priest. They wanted someone to be a priest and they talked about it and as a matter of fact I was thinking about it even then and I was thinking about going into the priesthood even as a 9th grader, but my oldest sister talked me out of it.
- KK: Why?
- LL: You know, I guess she just didn't want ah you know us, she didn't want me to leave, okay.
- KK: Huh, huh.
- LL: But you know, I, I don't think I can't say that during high school years that I actually thought about it. I know, I just think it was something that came around after, toward the end of high school years and you know I was kind of floundering in college anyway and I didn't know really what to do with my life.
- KK: Huh, huh. Did you have a Mentor in the priesthood that you went to or that you could talk to about this interest?
- LL: No. My entering the priesthood was just accidental believe it or not. Um, you have a [REDACTED] in town called [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] and I were friends and [REDACTED] had a cousin in the Stigmatine Fathers and one day we went to visit him, one Sunday afternoon, just to visit him and he happened to mention the fact that you know he wanted [REDACTED] to be interested in and he asked me. He says have you ever thought about it? And I said I've thought about it and that's how you know I started to re think about it, but as far as to get back to your original question, it was never anything like that in those days. Nothing.
- AF: Nothing like
- LL: Nothing.
- KK: Did you serve as an altar boy when you were growing up?
- LL: Yes, till I was about 20 years old.
- KK: What parish did you attend here in Concord?
- LL: Sacred Heart.
- KK: Okay.

- JR: Even though you went to St. John's?
- LL: Well, see that was the only Catholic school in town.
- JR: Huh, huh.
- LL: And you know at that time and I think for like three dollars a week or something like that that was the tuition from the parish so it's automatic.
- AF: Mr. Landry, after you completed your training what was your first assignment as a priest, sir?
- LL: I know my first year was spent in Wellesley, Massachusetts. Ah, that's where we had that fifth year of Theology.
- AF: Yeah.
- LL: And we taught. I think that's the first you know official assignment and it's possible that we could have been you know for a week here or.
- KK: What grade were you teaching?
- LL: I taught sophomore high school English and first and second year of college world history.
- KK: When you say you keep referring to we as your other fellow seminarians and early ordained priests.
- LL: We were three in my class. Three classmates.
- KK: I was going to ask you how many classmates did you have.
- LL: Three people, yeah.
- KK: Including yourself
- LL: Yes.
- KK: Or addition to yourself?
- LL: No, no including myself.
- KK: All right.

- JR: When you, you're growing up at Sacred Heart and then at school St. John's and these early experiences in the church had you ever had any inappropriate sexual contact with a priest, supervisor in one of your parishes or?
- LL: No.
- JR: Okay.
- LL: Ah,
- AF: Go ahead.
- LL: Almost.
- JR: Huh, huh.
- RM: Why don't you say that's a question to answer.
- JR: Yeah, that begs another question.
- KK: Why don't you tell us what happened?
- LL: That's Dennis Downing that I called you about.
- RM: Right.
- LL: Okay. There was a priest by the name of Dennis Downing. He's dead now. He, sometimes the locker room, the locker room was right here on Pleasant Street. There was a little St. John's school, ah 7th and 8th grade building that and we use to undress downstairs and once in a while he used to come down there and ah he tried you know. He was trying for everybody.
- AF: When you say he would try, can you explain what was he trying to do?
- LL: He was trying to get us to go with him some place.
- RM: What age were you?
- LL: 16, 17 somewhere around there I guess.
- RM: Was the talk among other boys 16, 17 years of age that Father Downing would come down and try to get that to happen?
- LL: Well, can I tell you how I found out about it?

RM: Sure. Sure.

LL: Ah, there was a guy that lived over by St. John's church over on Perley Street whatever it is now. By the Rectory by the name of [REDACTED] we use to call him [REDACTED] went one night to his house and stayed over night.

KK: At whose house?

LL: Downey's.

KK: Okay.

LL: And then he woke up in the middle of the night and Downing was in bed with him and I don't why [REDACTED] was like that you know and got him out of bed, but he told us about it. He says you know he cautioned us.

KK: Okay. Was [REDACTED] about your age?

LL: He was a year older.

KK: Okay.

LL: A grade ahead of me anyway.

KK: Okay. So the word spread?

LL: Huh, huh.

AF: If we can go back ah to what we were talking about your first assignment, sir, you were teaching?

LL: Huh, huh.

AF: Um, how long were you on that assignment teaching?

LL: Well from September until May or June or whatever.

AF: What year was that, sir?

LL: '58, '59.

AF: Okay. And during that time, sir, that time span, do you recall if you had any inappropriate sexual contact with any minors at that time?

LL: No sir.

AF: Okay. I'd just ask you to speak up because

LL: Okay, no sir.

AF: None then?

LL: Not that I can remember.

AF: Okay. Um, what were the name – who did – who was for a lack of a better term, who was your immediate supervisor at the school sir at that time? Do you remember?

LL: My superior at the ah that assignment?

AF: Yes sir.

LL: One who taught us, Father John Golden.

AF: Golden. Would that be G O L D E N?

LL: That is correct.

AF: Okay. Um, at the end of the school year, Mr. Landry, what was your assignment? What became of your assignment at the end of that school year?

LL: I don't know when what month or anything like that, but I was sent to Canada to Sue St. Marie, Ontario, Canada in a French parish cause we wanted to, wanted to start a new province in Canada and I had a French background. I understood French and they sent me up there.

AF: Would that have been in the summer of '59? Is that accurate?

LL: I think, yes.

AF: Okay. And how, how long did you stay in that assignment, sir?

LL: I don't, I know they took me out of there and I'd say sometime either before or after Christmas.

AF: Of what year, sir?

LL: We're in '59?

AF: Yes.

LL: Yeah, that Christmas of '59 I think, I think I was out of there. I don't think I stayed there that long.

AF: Do you recall who some of the other priests were or your fellow seminarians were, who they were at the time there?

LL: The pastor of that church?

AF: Yes sir.

LL: Father Isabelle.

AF: Father Isabelle. Okay. What were your duties there, Mr. Landry?

LL: Well I you know, just a regular parish priest duties. I um

AF: Did you get involved in ah various duties around the church, is that correct?

LL: Yes.

AF: Is that accurate?

LL: That is accurate.

AF: During the time that you were there, sir, did you have any inappropriate sexual contact with minors at that parish?

LL: I think, I think there may have been an allegation, but I did not touch anybody.

AF: You did not?

LL: No.

AF: Okay. When you say an allegation, do you recall um how old – was this a boy or a girl, sir?

LL: Boy.

AF: Boy. How old was the boy at the time?

LL: 13, 14.

AF: Okay. What was the allegation sir? Do you recall?

- LL: I think it was, I think the allegation was that I tried to get, he was afraid to undress and you know with the other basketball boys.
- AF: Yep.
- LL: And I think I told him to, I asked him to undress and he went home and told his parents and I think, I think that's what did, but I don't
- JR: Do you remember the boys name?
- LL: Yeah. [REDACTED]
- AF: And at that particular time Mr. Landry, um under whose umbrella were you as far as the Diocese were, who had ultimate control?
- LL: Stignatine Fathers.
- AF: Stignatine Fathers okay.
- LL: Yeah, I was I was outside listening to Fathers, as far as the work is concerned. I was working in a regular parish, had nothing to do with the Stignatine Fathers.
- AF: I understand.
- LL: But I was still under their jurisdiction as far as.
- AF: Who made the allegation or was that reported to the parish or to the Stignatine Fathers do you know?
- LL: I think, I think he had a brother that was a priest. Yeah, yeah. Hope you don't mind.
- AF: Nope, that's fine.
- LL: It's rusty. It really is rusty you know. I think he told his brother and I think his brother may have told my Sigmateen superiors.
- AF: Okay.
- LL: Cause I remember, the reason why I say that cause later on that allegation was brought up to me.
- JR: Later on when that allegation was brought up, who brought it up?

LL: Father Egan.

JR: And, and who is Father Egan?

LL: Father Egan was the Provincial at the time.

JR: Provincial working for who?

LL: For the Stigmatine Fathers.

JR: Of the Stigmatine Fathers. Was this incident in Canada ever discussed with any officials from the Manchester Diocese at any point?

LL: I don't think so. I don't think so.

AF: Do you know, and just a follow up on that; do you know of anyone in the Diocese, Manchester Diocese that may have become aware or had some knowledge of this allegation, sir?

LL: I have, I would not have any knowledge of that.

AF: Wouldn't have any knowledge?

LL: No, I would not have any knowledge of that whatsoever.

AF: All right.

KK: Can I jump in here?

AF: Yep, yep, yep.

KK: Um, when this allegation was made against you by this boy and his brother, how close in time was that to your leaving the parish in Canada?

LL: It had nothing to do with my leaving Canada.

KK: Okay.

LL: I heard about this only some years later. Do you want to know why I left that parish?

KK: Yes.

- LL: Okay. I left that parish because I asked to leave that parish because I found Father Isabelle fooling around with the housekeeper.
- JR: Was the housekeeper a man, a woman?
- LL: Woman.
- JR: A woman.
- LL: Yes.
- AF: Was this to your knowledge sir the only allegation that was made against you while you were serving there sir?
- LL: Yes.
- AF: Okay. Did you and I think I asked this. I'm not sure if it got answered. Did you have any inappropriate sexual contact with any minors while you were at this assignment, sir?
- LL: No sir.
- AF: Okay. After you left this assignment, Mr. Landry, where were you assigned then? You don't remember?
- LL: I don't.
- AF: Okay. What is the next assignment that you can tell us about?
- LL: Agawam, Massachusetts.
- AF: Agawam, Mass.?
- LL: Huh, huh.
- AF: Do you remember approximately what year that would have been, sir? Are we in the early '60's, the mid 60's?
- LL: Ah, it would be in the 60's yes.
- AF: Okay. Can you narrow that down a little for me? When did you leave the priesthood, sir? '71?
- LL: No. They had me down officially as '72, but I left in the '70.

AF: Okay. Lets back up from there.

LL: Okay.

AF: Think about your, think about 1970 and backup from there in relation to your assignment in Agawam.

LL: I think I left the Stignatine Fathers in '65.

AF: Okay.

LL: And came into this Diocese. So it would have to be between '60 and '65 I was in Agawam.

AF: In Agawam. What was, what were your duties in Agawam, sir?

LL: I was the parish priest. Parish priest, yeah.

AF: And you were still associated with the Stignatine.

LL: Stignatine Fathers.

AF: Okay. And what was the name of that parish in Agawam, sir.

LL: St. Anthony's.

AF: Okay. It's a great name by the way. What other priests were there, sir?

LL: Father Ruscetta.

AF: Ruscetta. Could you spell that for me, sir?

LL: R U S C E T T A, I think.

AF: Any other priests assigned?

LL: No.

AF: You are the parish priest?

LL: He was the pastor.

AF: He was the pastor, okay. What were your duties other than what we already know a parish priest?

LL: Everything.

AF: Okay.

LL: He was, he was a sick man and I had, I had most of the work.

AF: During that time did you have any sexual contact, inappropriate sexual contact with minors in Agawam?

LL: Yes I did.

AF: Okay. Can you tell us approximately how many you would estimate?

RM: Lets get clear here Leo. Is it "oh wow" because it's difficult to remember or is it "oh wow" because it was like plane loads of kids.

LL: Difficult to remember. I'm going to say 4 or 5.

AF: 4 or 5?

LL: But I'm

AF: Do you recall their names, Mr. Landry? All or part is fine, sir, whatever you recall.

LL: I remember a guy by the name of [REDACTED]

AF: [REDACTED]

LL: That is correct.

AF: How old was [REDACTED]

LL: 14, 15.

AF: Okay. Who else do you remember, sir?

LL: I have a face, but I don't have a name.

AF: Okay. That's fine. Do you remember any other names?

LL: I want to say, that face but I'm not sure. The last name [REDACTED]

AF: How old would he have been, sir?

LL: Same, 14, 15 years old. Something like that.

AF: Well you can think about that. We can come back.

LL: Okay. I don't have you know

AF: Understand that.

LL: The name part of it is just very, very difficult.

KK: Huh, huh.

AF: Where did, well first of what, what was the inappropriate sexual contacts sir?

LL: I masturbated him.

AF: Masturbated him?

LL: Yes.

KK: Which one?

LL: Both.

KK: Okay.

AF: By using your hand or another part of your body, sir?

LL: No, my hand.

AF: Your hand, okay. And did they masturbate you, sir?

LL: No sir.

AF: Okay. Was there any or any type of penetration that occurred such as fellatio or?

LL: No, nothing.

AF: Anything like that?

LL: Nothing.

AF: Okay. How many times sir, do you estimate that this occurred with each, each lad?

LL: I, I have no idea.

RM: I, I don't want you to guess, but I want you to think about it this way. Is it something that happened once or twice with each boy or is it something that would happen once a day with more than one. Just to get an idea of how to quantify it.

LL: I, I would say, I would say maybe 4 or 5 times each.

AF: Each. Okay.

LL: And that's.

AF: And where, where did that normally, where did these acts normally occur, sir?

LL: Ah, with [REDACTED], I did it in his house cause he was alone. He only had a mother. She worked. Ah, if the mans, if the guys name is [REDACTED] would be the Rectory.

AF: Okay. Go ahead, sir. Was it mostly at the Rectory that these, these acts would occur?

LL: Yes.

AF: By in large?

LL: Yes.

RM: What year is this?

LL: I'm sorry.

RM: What year, Leo?

LL: From '60, you said '60 and '65.

KK: Huh, huh.

AF: Would, I'm sorry Kathy go ahead.

KK: What about the others that you can't recall their names right now, but where did those acts occur?

LL: Okay. I have a face, but no name and I was able to use a summer camp on a lake and I would say 3 of at least 3 times that boy I took that boy there.

KK: And is that Lake Agawam or is it a different lake?

LL: Oh, it's a different. It was outside of Agawam.

KK: Oh, all right.

LL: I have no idea of the name of the lake or anything. I have no.

KK: In what state?

LL: It's still, it's around that area.

KK: In Massachusetts?

LL: Yes.

KK: Okay.

LL: Yeah.

KK: All right.

AF: Sir, can you tell me what the circumstances were of these acts occurring and I guess let me be a little more specific. What lead up to this, this masturbation being preformed by you on these boys? Was it subsequent to confession or was it involved with some type of classes? Can you tell me what lead up to this? How did the circumstances occur?

LL: I don't ever recall using confession, but I think it was talking about you know sometimes I think it would lead it up to talking about their bodies and stuff like that.

AF: What type of settings? Was this a class or were the boys in the Rectory? Were they altar boys?

LL: No. Well, no, [REDACTED] as'n't, no, no. All three that I just mentioned no they were not altar boys.

AF: So they were talking.

LL: I could have met them in CCD classes. I met them there.

AF: Okay.

LL: But I don't recall, I don't think I talked about that subject, CCD. Maybe after or something like that and that idea.

AF: Would they, would it be fair to say that you'd ask them to stay after?

LL: Yes.

AF: And then this would occur, the masturbation would occur?

LL: Well not at that particular time. At least it was an introduction to the conversation.

AF: Okay. Um, do you recall any times sir while this was occurring. I want to give you a scenario.

LL: Huh, huh.

AF: That um lets say a lad went to confession, may have confessed to some bad thoughts for example or masturbating himself.

LL: Huh, huh.

AF: Was that something that after confession that you may want to talk to that lad about further or did that actually occur, that scenario with you? Post confession, sir.

LL: If, if it did it would be in a talk. Say for example if I were, if I were teaching CCD classes.

AF: Yes.

LL: And I taught all boys or something like that you know then that subject I have talked about that subject and some boys have come up to me afterwards about it so, but I don't, I don't recall using the confessional.

KK: Did your contact with each of these boys occur – were you having this contact with each boy only at one time or was there an overlap? Would you be seeing more than one boy and doing this at the same time?

LL: No.

KK: Or during the same time period?

LL: No.

KK: All right. What would stop your contact? What made it stop? Say for instance with [REDACTED] how did it stop?

LL: When I was transferred.

KK: Okay. How about if his name is [REDACTED] How did it stop with him?

LL: Same thing, transferred.

KK: All right. So if you had not in fact been transferred do you think that the contact would have continued?

LL: [REDACTED] no.

KK: Why not?

LL: I had just stopped. I don't know why. He just didn't bother to come back or whatever it was. Something like that.

KK: So he stopped it?

LL: Yeah. He just wouldn't come. Sometimes he would come to see me at the Rectory.

KK: All right.

LL: And then after that I didn't pursue it.

KK: Okay. How about the boy with, at the lake?

LL: No it just stopped.

KK: Okay. Um, and the other 2 maybe 3 that you can't recall their names. How did that stop?

LL: I can't, I just said that number.

KK: Oh, all right.

LL: I have no face.

KK: Okay.

LL: I don't have anything.

KK: But 3 are clear to you?

LL: Yes.

KK: Okay. We'll stick with those three. Um, so with your transfer is that when you left the Fathers, the Order of the Fathers or that was sometime prior to?

LL: No, I think I left from Agawam to Timmons, Ontario, Canada.

KK: All right. Okay, so before you went to Canada then um, did anybody else know about your contact with these kids?

LL: I don't know.

KK: Did anyone make a complaint that you were aware of?

LL: No.

KK: About your contact?

LL: No.

KK: Do you know whether your pastor might have known?

LL: No.

AF: No allegations, sir in Agawam?

LL: No.

AF: Ever came out?

LL: No.

JR: Did you ever discuss what occur with these boys in Agawam with anyone in years, years later?

LL: No sir.

JR: When you worked the Diocese in Manchester or elsewhere?

LL: No sir. No.

JR: Have, have you ever discussed what occurred at Agawam with anybody until you know until you met with your lawyers in relation to this whole brew ha, ha?

LL: No.

KK: Did you have any contact with the boy's families?

LL: No.

KK: And when either not relating to the sexual contact or specifically relating like did you have any contact when the family found out?

LL: No.

KK: Okay.

AF: Your reassignment or your transfer to Ontario?

LL: Huh, huh.

AF: Is that next? And I think you answered this, was this or was this not a as a result of an allegation or some type of ah misconduct on your part?

LL: If it, not that I know of.

AF: Okay.

LL: Nobody mentioned anything to me. Just that you know want you to go of all places. I said Timmons, but it's really South Porcupine, Ontario Canada.

AF: South Porcupine?

LL: Yes.

RM: How far is that from North Porcupine?

LL: Everybody says that for some reason or other.

AF: What year would that have been, this time?

LL: I, I can't get you know. If, if I was let us say from '60 to '61 or so I must have spent a year and a half or so in Agawam and after that you know if that's, if that's the time you know I can't get exactly what year or anything like that. I do, I do remember that from Agawam I did go to South Porcupine, Ontario

Canada. Now how long I was in South Porcupine I don't know. I was there a year anyway.

AF: What was your assignment up there, sir?

LL: Again the same thing. I was with a Father Fontana, who was the pastor.

AF: Okay.

LL: And ah.

AF: So you were running a parish, is that correct?

LL: Well he was running.

AF: Right.

LL: Thanks anyway.

AF: In reality.

LL: Yes. Yeah.

AF: Okay. Who were the other priests there sir?

LL: None.

AF: None?

LL: None.

AF: During the time you were there Mr. Landry, did you have inappropriate sexual contact with any minors?

LL: Yes. I can think of one. I can't remember his name. I have no idea.

AF: Okay. I'd just ask you to speak up if you would.

LL: I'm sorry. I can't remember his name.

AF: What was that contact, sir?

LL: Same thing, masturbation.

AF: Masturbation?

LL: Yes.

AF: By you on him?

LL: Yes.

AF: Was there any other type of sexual contact other than you masturbating him?

LL: No sir.

AF: Okay. And how old was the lad at the time?

LL: 14.

AF: 14?

LL: Yes.

AF: Do you remember his name, sir?

LL: No sir I do not.

AF: Okay. Would this have been, again I want to make sure I understand would this have been after 1965 or before 1965?

LL: Before 1965.

AF: Before 1965, okay. Somewhere between the early '60's and '65?

LL: Yeah.

AF: Okay. Ah, did anyone, do you recall any other boys that you participated in this activity with at that assignment, sir in Ontario?

LL: No sir I do not.

AF: Okay. And how long were you there approximately, Mr. Landry?

LL: At least a year.

AF: At least a year?

LL: A year or so.

AF: Okay. Did anyone else know about this contact with this lad?

LL: No sir.

AF: Do you recall his name?

LL: No sir I do not.

AF: Okay. Was there ever any allegations made against you while you were assigned as to that parish, sir in Ontario?

LL: No sir.

AF: Okay. Up to this point, just to make it clear, had there been any formal allegations that you would consider documented allegations made against you at this point?

LL: No sir.

AF: Okay.

KK: Can I ask a question at this point. Did you have any contact with any of the boys from Agawam in your next assignment?

LL: No I did not.

KK: All right.

LL: No.

JR: To your knowledge was any of the contact that you had with a minor and the Ontario assignment in South Porcupine was the reported to any of your?

LL: Not that I know of.

JR: Superiors?

LL: If it was I, I have never heard anything about that at all.

JR: Have you ever discussed um the nature of what occurred in South Porcupine ever with any officials from the Diocese of Manchester?

LL: No I have not. No.

JR: Okay.

AF: We'll move on.

LL: Go ahead.

AF: After this assignment sir in Ontario, where did you go then? What's the next assignment you remember?

LL: I, I the next assignment I remember is Woodbridge, Virginia.

AF: Woodbridge, Virginia?

LL: Yeah.

AF: Okay. And this was after Ontario, sir?

LL: I think so, yes. I think so.

AF: What were your duties there sir?

LL: Same thing as before. I was with ah a parish priest and ah I was with um God, I don't remember the pastor's name.

AF: Still under the umbrella of the Stigmatine?

LL: Yes.

AF: Fathers?

LL: Yes.

AF: Okay. How long were you there, sir? Approximately, Mr. Landry?

LL: 4, 5, 6 months.

AF: Okay. Did you have any sexual contact with minors at that particular assignment, sir?

LL: One.

AF: One.

LL: That I can remember.

AF: Boy or girl?

LL: Boy.

AF: How old, sir?

LL: 14 or 15.

AF: Ah, can you describe that contact?

LL: Masturbation.

AF: By you on him?

LL: On him.

AF: Any other type of contact?

LL: No sir.

AF: When did that occur?

LL: The complex that we had in Woodbridge was we had a brand new church. We had a Rectory and there was an old house that we used for CCD and that's you know I remember.

AF: During your time there, sir, was there did anybody come forward and make a documented formal allegation or accusation against you there?

LL: No sir. No sir.

AF: At any point during the time you were a priest or after, did the Diocese of Manchester become aware of any problem ah such as you described down in Woodbridge that you're aware of? Did the Diocese of Manchester ever become aware to your knowledge of this type of activity with this lad in Woodbridge?

LL: No sir.

AF: To your knowledge?

LL: No. To my knowledge they never knew. They never mentioned anything.

AF: After Woodbridge, sir.

KK: Can I ask.

AF: Sure.

KK: Do you recall that boys name?

LL: No. I, I just remember his father was a retired serviceman and at that time delivered oil.

AF: Up until this point, I'm just going to ask this question. You're a very intelligent man, very educated man, did you feel within yourself that you had a problem?

LL: Yes.

AF: You did.

LL: Oh yes.

AF: Did you do, did you take any initiative, sir on your own or through the Stignatines to try and get or try and resolve this problem during this time?

LL: I did try to resolve it, but not with the Stignatine Fathers. I searched and I searched for what you would call a spiritual father, you know somebody that was a good confessor and somebody that could really help me out. I would never, never go to the Stignatine Fathers.

KK: Why not?

LL: Ah, they were. I, I left them because I felt that they were not a good Order.

AF: Did you ever confide in anyone, sir during this time?

LL: Well, I, I you know whatever priest that I went to you know, ah especially if you, depending on where you were stationed of course. Like if you were stationed around Boston, you know, what we'd try and do is go to some kind of monastery, you know like the Comalite Fathers and they were good spiritual fathers and people who had that kind of reputation I would go to them.

AF: Go to who, sir?

LL: Go, well whoever, you would go to the monastery and then you would ask to go to confession and then you know depending you know who what the priest said in confession to you you know if he could, if you felt that you could confide and you would go further and stuff like that, but I don't know.

KK: So was it a personal choice?

LL: Yes.

KK: Of how much you told?

LL: Yes, yes. In other words you know you just don't go up to a monastery and just say I want you to be my spiritual father. You wait you know and then you ask me if you like the guy maybe you'd say Father what's your name. I'd like to come to confession to you again. There maybe over a period of time you know if you felt comfortable and then you could talk to him about this problem. Sometimes that was a very difficult thing to find.

AF: Did you ever seek any professional help on your own, sir during this period? Other than.

TAPE ONE, SIDE B

AF: Okay, this is Investigator Anthony Fowler, New Hampshire Attorney General's Office in the continuation of the interview with Leo Landry. We had flipped the tape over. Side A ran out on the first tape. We then took a short break to get water for everybody and same people are present and Mr. Landry do you mind if we continue to audio tape this interview?

LL: This is fine.

AF: Okay. And the time here by my watch is 2:05 p.m. to start side B of the first tape. Ah, before we went on break I had asked a question of Mr. Landry whether or not you had sought any professional help on your own or through others in reference to your problem with these minors. Can you tell us whether or not that occurred?

LL: It did occur. It occurred when I was at Agawam, Massachusetts.

AF: And let me just qualify that initially I believe and if it's not on tape you had said no, but during the break you remembered that in fact that did occur and that's why the difference in the answer. Is that correct?

LL: That is correct.

AF: All right. Why don't you tell us about that sir.

LL: Okay. Um, I was called in by one of my superiors ah, Father Charles Egan and he had said to me that there were allegations or there were rumors and he