

Assistant Secretary for Ministerial Personnel

Archdiocese of Boston

Confidential Memo

To: The file of Reverend James Foley
From: Reverend Charles Higgins
CC: Bishop Murphy
Reverend Paul Miceli
Date: 09/20/99
Re: accusation of sexual misconduct from:
[REDACTED]

The appointment took place on Tuesday, September 14, 1999 at 3:30 PM. [REDACTED] works for [REDACTED] of Boston [REDACTED] is married and has a [REDACTED] daughter. He comes from a family of [REDACTED] brothers and sisters. [REDACTED] appeared to be very relaxed, candid and engaging. [REDACTED] came to report this incident because of his dealing with his depressions and the need to face "what is always in the back of my mind." He was reporting the incident because of an article that appeared in the Holy Name bulletin asking for some liturgical supplies for Fr. Foley in New Mexico. [REDACTED] thought that Fr. Foley was no longer a priest until his mother told him about the article in the parish bulletin.

The incident took place when [REDACTED] was 14 years old. [REDACTED] worked at Holy Name Rectory in West Roxbury answering the door and telephone from 3-6 in the afternoon or 6-9 in the evening. His two older brothers had worked at the rectory having the same responsibility. [REDACTED] said that he was a quiet kid and was more a follower than a leader when he was younger. He told of how Fr. Foley would show up where the kids hung out, appearing out of "the blue". He found Fr. Foley very intimidating. Fr. Foley would pull [REDACTED] aside, away from the other kids and ask him questions about sex such as: "are the girls giving you blow jobs?" [REDACTED] thought this was odd. It made him very uncomfortable.

One afternoon, while working the 3-6 at the rectory, [REDACTED] was called upstairs to Fr. Foley's room. While in Foley's room he asked [REDACTED] to take out his penis. He said to [REDACTED] "we are suppose to check out these things." [REDACTED] took out his penis and Fr. Foley held it in his hand and examined it. [REDACTED] said that nothing else happened. After leaving Fr. Foley's room [REDACTED] felt very confused. As he came down stairs, he ran into the parish cook, [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] asked him what was wrong and [REDACTED] told him the whole story. [REDACTED] made [REDACTED] write the whole incident down on paper. [REDACTED] did so. Previous to the incident, Fr. Foley had invited [REDACTED] to his house in New Hampshire. He told [REDACTED] "we could have drinks". [REDACTED] asked his mother if he could go to New Hampshire, she refused to give him permission. I asked [REDACTED] if there were any other incidents. He said none that he could remember. I also asked if he had confided in anyone else concerning the situation with Father Foley. He said that his mother, father, wife and brother [REDACTED] are aware of the incident. [REDACTED]

also found the name of the former cook at Holy Name in the phone book. [redacted] the former cook, now resides in South Boston. [redacted] called [redacted] and reintroduced himself. [redacted]'s immediately responded was to remember [redacted] as the one who had "that situation with Fr. Foley." [redacted] had called him to see if he still possessed the paper that [redacted] had written on the day of the incident. [redacted] did not have the paper any longer.

When [redacted] recently told his brother [redacted] about the incident, [redacted] told him about the time Fr. Foley took him into the front room of the rectory and asked him to take off his shirt. Fr. Foley then took [redacted] measurements. That incident that occurred when [redacted] was 16.

I asked [redacted] how we could help him. He said that he was seeing a psychologist for his depression and was not looking for anything more than reporting the situation with Father Foley. I thanked him for his cooperation and told him that if we could do anything for him, please let us know. I also told him that I would keep him informed about the situation.