

CHAPTER SEVEN

FACULTIES

JAMES H. PROVOST

I. AUTHORITY TO GRANT FACULTIES

II. NECESSARY FACULTIES

III. OPTIONAL FACULTIES

APPENDIX: SAMPLE DOCUMENTS

Although the current law of the Church grants various faculties to clergy for pastoral functions, faculties must still be granted by the diocesan bishop or other local ordinary for some ministries in a diocese. In addition, it has become the practice in many dioceses to include in a listing of "faculties" those items granted by the law itself, or other pastoral suggestions and reminders of the requirements stated in the law.

I. AUTHORITY TO GRANT FACULTIES

Generally, faculties are issued in the name of the diocesan bishop, even if he has designated someone else to issue the faculties in his name.

As discussed above in Chapter Four, canon law distinguishes between diocesan bishops and local ordinaries. When the canons use the term "local ordinary," this includes the diocesan bishop, vicars general, and episcopal vicars within their scope of competence (c. 134, §2). When the canons use the term "diocesan bishop," only the diocesan bishop is meant; if the bishop desires someone else to act on his behalf in these instances, he must specifically delegate the person for this.

Most matters traditionally included in diocesan faculties can be done by the local ordinary, so the faculty to do them could be extended by the diocesan bishop, vicar general, or an episcopal vicar within the scope of his

FACULTIES

competence. This includes the crucial faculty of hearing confessions (c. 969, §1).

Faculties granted in the name of the diocesan bishop can be extended by anyone the bishop delegates for this purpose. The vicar general, an episcopal vicar, or at times the diocesan chancellor have commonly been delegated to grant diocesan faculties; at times, deans have also been authorized to do this by the bishop. In these cases, the faculties come from the bishop; the application of them to an individual cleric is done by a delegate of the bishop.<sup>1</sup>

Granting faculties is an administrative act by which a favor (the faculties) is extended to an individual. Before issuing the faculties the person who extends them should be informed as to the competence and reliability of the person who will receive them (c. 50). They should be in writing (c. 51), and even if communicated orally (as in an emergency situation) a record should be kept of this and a written set of faculties should be supplied to the individual as soon as possible.

Removing faculties is also an administrative act. The diocesan bishop can remove faculties, as can another executive in the diocese authorized to do this (e.g., the vicar general or an episcopal vicar acting within the scope of his authority) unless the diocesan bishop has restricted this to himself. A delegate may remove faculties only if authorized to do this.

Since removing faculties can have an adverse affect on the individual's reputation as well as on the ministry available in the diocese, the one who decrees they are to be lifted must first seek out the necessary facts and should hear those concerned, especially the person whose faculties are being removed (c. 50).

II. NECESSARY FACULTIES

The only faculty which is strictly necessary for a priest to minister is the faculty to hear confessions (c. 966, §1). The law itself grants this faculty to local ordinaries, canons penitentiary, and parish pastors (c. 968, §1). Certain religious superiors also have this faculty from the law to hear confessions

<sup>1</sup>Because the issuing of faculties in the bishop's name can be in virtue of delegation for this by the bishop, especially when done by the diocesan chancellor, there does not appear to be any obstacle to the bishop delegating a lay person to issue faculties in his name. The point is under some discussion by canonists, but in practice the bishop's action of delegating someone to issue faculties in his name, and their actually doing it, would be valid even if the matter is disputed, in virtue of c. 14.

JMJ

Dear Fr. Pat,

This is an appeal for clemency, mercy, understanding, or whatever is missing in the situation of Jim Hoder. (Rev. James Hoder). Maybe it's 'understanding.'

I have lived for over a year with Jim, [REDACTED] I have conversed with him, many hours; been in his company many days; there are no secrets here. Jim is exceptionally intelligent. He is a priest who loves God, loves his priesthood and loves the Church.

Who am I and why do I write this appeal? I am a priest forty years, [REDACTED] and I write because I feel that an injustice is being done to Jim Hoder... an injustice in this sense: when comparing cases (and I know several) where priests who have made more mistakes both in number and gravity, are returning to ministry. Jim Hoder is not a pedophile. He is not a sex addict or for that matter any kind of addict. There are no lawsuits, no publicity. There is nothing about his case which should exclude him from all ministry in the Church. He is neither a danger nor a threat to anyone. Certainly, there must be some job for such a highly talented priest as Jim.

Why do I write this appeal? My conscience tell me to come to his defense. St. Paul tells Timothy: "No one came to my defense." He says, "They all abandoned me." I pray that it will not be held against them."

I feel a lot of pain about Jim Hoder because I understand him. I know that he is in deep pain...and probably feels abandoned.... abandoned by the Church he loves.

I pray that you will give this a prayer. I pray that somebody up there in Chicago will give this case a review...or something... a few prayers; a little 'understanding'... mercy..whatever!

Thank you for listening...

A brother priest; a wounded one...

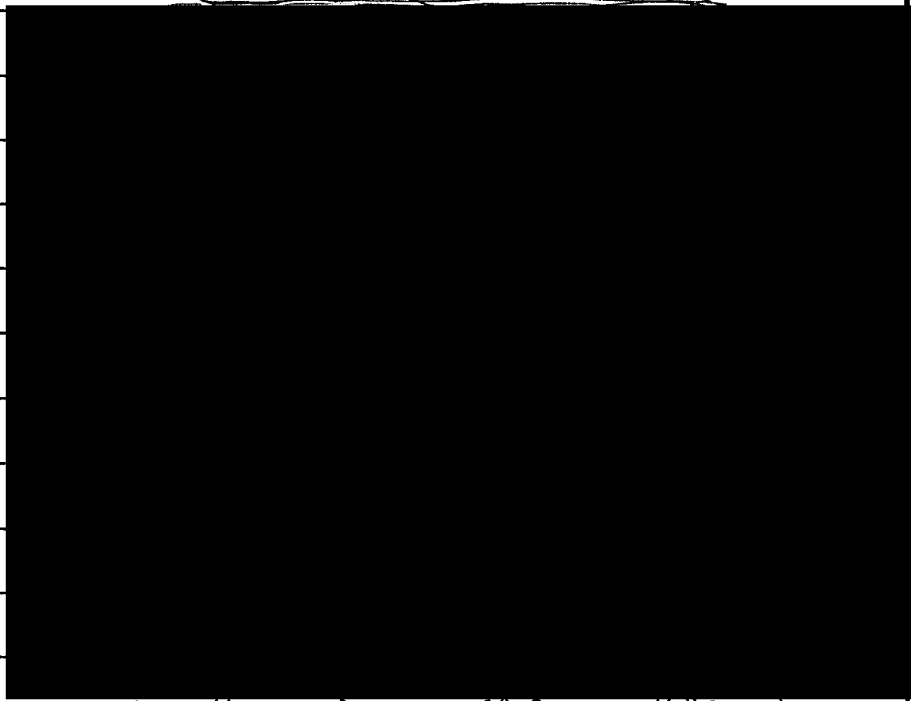
Sincerely, [REDACTED]

Jane Hoder called  
- supposed to leave on Mon <sup>is the last day!</sup> CSRH  
next week. Tues.

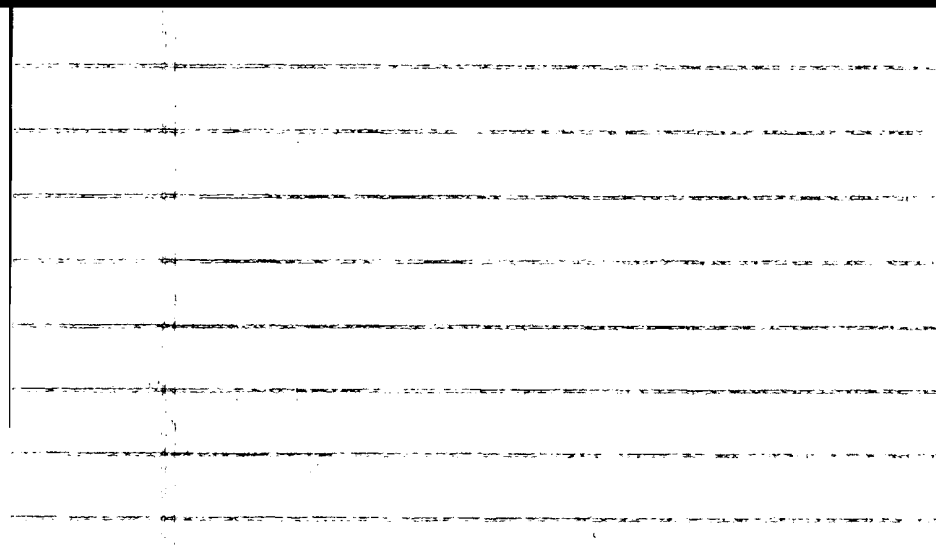
- when up here can be pressure

- ~~be~~ still the victim

- definitely wants to leave on Mon.



How long does she want?





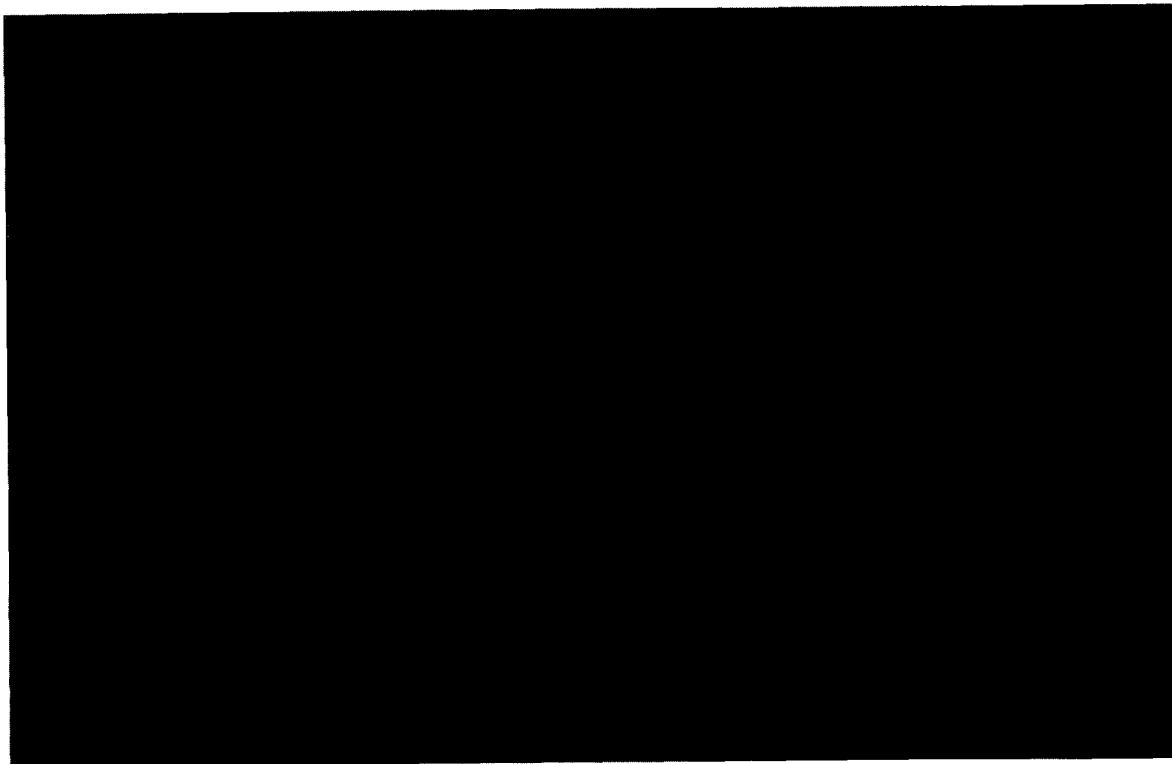
**ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO**

**VICAR FOR PRIESTS**

**645 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, SUITE 543**

**CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611**

Off: (312) 642-1837  
Fax: (312) 642-4933



Saint Mary of the Lake Seminary  
Mundelein, Illinois 60060

PERSONAL DATA

Priesthood Ordination Date: May 14, 1975

Please type all responses.

Name: James Roder

Home Parish: St. Francis of Rome, Cicero

Father's Name: [REDACTED]

Mother's maiden Name: [REDACTED]

Living/deceased: Yes

Living/deceased: Yes

STL (CAND)

Academic degrees: B.S. Psych. STB, MDiv

Language Skills: Spanish

Previous Ministerial Involvement:

Field Education and apostolates: (describe places and work)

- Catechist at 24th and Wentworth in Quigley
- 2 Summers in Mexico- Student project in mountain village
- 4 years volunteer at Chicago State Mental Hospital Ward 13
- 1 Quarter CPE Boston State Mental Hospital
- 2 Years Manager, Seminary Bookstore
- 2 years Head, Seminary Dining Hall
- 1 summer at Spanish Language school, Cuernavaca

Deacon Assignment:

A) Place:

Providence of God

B) Work Description: (Rank in terms of time and priority)

- Sacramental Preparation
- Preaching
- Teaching CCD, 7th Grade, and weekly in sixth grade in school
- Participation in Charismatic Prayer Groups, Carmel High School, Chicago
- day of Renewal, St. Aloysious
- Spiritual Director, parish teen group.

C) Where did you find your greatest strength?

I found my greatest strength in teaching people, in preaching, and in leading people in spontaneous prayer. I communicated to them well about the presence of God in their lives. In hospital visits, answering the rectory door, informal contacts with parishioners, and contact with friends, I found it very easy to direct the conversation to God and how He fit into their lives.

Saint Mary of the Lake Seminary  
Mundelein, Illinois 60060

-2-

Personal Data

Statement of Preference:

- A) Type of Parish: Please specify the type of parish preferred, listing them  
1, 2, 3 in rank of priority.

Urban apostolate:

Suburban 1  
Outer City 2  
City 3

Black Community 3  
Spanish Community 1  
Ethnic Community 2  
Economically deprived Community 4

- B) Could you specify a particular parish by name as an example?

St. John Brebeuf, St. Theresa in Palatine, Mary Seat of Wisdom, Park Ridge  
as examples of suburban parish.

*second choice* *or in urban setting*  
St. Vitus, etc. or some parish where there is a Mexican community

- C) Type of Work:

Normal Sacramental and Spiritual work  
Charismatic Prayer Group Involvement in parish or/ outside  
Some contact with Spanish work  
Some work perhaps in mental hospital or counseling

- D) Special home conditions relating to assignments:

I would like a home where the priests pray spontaneous and formal  
prayers together on a regular basis, and a place where parishioners were  
welcome in the rectory. I would like a place that physically was not run down.  
Also, finally the priests would have to have some comprehension of the  
Catholic charismatic renewal and be open to it.

- E) Other comments:

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Reverend Kenneth Velo



Post Office Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979

Administrative Assistant  
to the Cardinal

(312) 751-8219  
Fax (312) 337-6379

Monday July 1

Dear Jim,

I tried to reach you on Tuesday  
at Saint David, but learned  
you were away.

Please call me when you  
return to the city. I can be  
reached at the following numbers:



Thanks, Jim, I hope the  
time away was restful for you.

Sincerely  
Ken Velo.

Ray: F.Y.I.  
I called Jim to

talk about Saint  
Jerdmond. In the  
meantime, the Board heard  
that Gene Grathowski  
might be willing to take Jim.  
There is a need at Saint  
Jerdmond for someone  
else who speaks Spanish  
We will go benevolence ①  
Jerdmond ②

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Administrative Assistant  
to the Cardinal




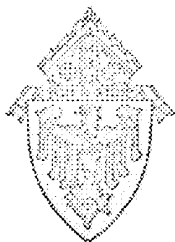
Post Office Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690

Rev. James Hoder  
St. David's Parish  
3210 So. Union Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois 60616

P H O N E  M E M O	TO	POM, DC	DATE	7-7	TIME	10:40	AM PM
	FROM	[REDACTED]	AREA CODE				
	OF	[REDACTED]	NO.				
			EXT.				
M E S S A G E	Var Hoder has been apprised of change of procedure by B. Branneth been told to will contact either [REDACTED] at office of Dan at St Clements next will be in Chicago this week.						
PHONED <input type="checkbox"/>		CALL BACK <input type="checkbox"/>		RETURNED CALL <input type="checkbox"/>		WANTS TO SEE YOU <input type="checkbox"/>	
				WILL CALL AGAIN <input type="checkbox"/>		WAS IN <input type="checkbox"/> URGENT <input type="checkbox"/>	

Call to JH on p. of 9/21

- 
- Rossy library interest
  - he will be headed back to Chi.
  - expected Mar per at #MC Puzze Series



# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

Office of the Chancellor  
312/787-2315

April 8, 1975

C

O

Dear Deacon Hoder:

Upon recommendation of the Seminary staff, and under the direction of His Eminence, Cardinal Cody, I am pleased to call you to the Order of Priesthood, to be ordained on May 14, 1975, for service in the Archdiocese of Chicago.

P

After consultation with the staff of the Seminary and the Diocesan Clergy Personnel Board, it has been recommended that you be assigned as Associate Pastor at the parish of St. Ita, Chicago, whose Pastor is Reverend Raymond J. Morrison.

Y

In accordance with the procedure set up by the Personnel Board, arrangements are being made for you to consult with the Pastor and his staff before your formal appointment is announced (after ordination) by the Cardinal (Canon 476).

I am happy to have the opportunity to express my congratulations to you and to welcome you to the priesthood we will share in service to the Archdiocese of Chicago.

Wishing you an abundance of blessings at Easter time, and with all good wishes, I am

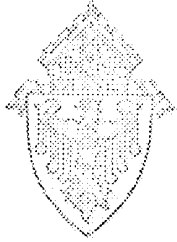
Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. Msgr. Richard A. Rosemeyer  
CHANCELLOR

cc:

Reverend Raymond J. Morrison, Pastor

AOC 014706



# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

Office of the Archbishop

May 14, 1975

Reverend James L. Hoder  
St. Mary of the Lake Seminary  
Mundelein, Illinois 60060

Dear Father Hoder:

In accordance with Canon 476, 3, and following the recommendation of the Diocesan Clergy Personnel Board, it gives me great pleasure to appoint you as Associate Pastor to the Reverend Raymond J. Morrison, Pastor, St. Ita parish, Chicago.

Likewise, I am happy to grant to you the ordinary faculties of the Archdiocese of Chicago, valid from today until revocation.

Your appointment as Associate Pastor is effective immediately. Arrangements are to be made with the Pastor about the time that you are to take up your duties after your vacation.

Wishing you every blessing and priestly success in your first pastoral assignment, I am, dear Father Hoder,

Very truly yours in Christ,

Archbishop of Chicago

Chancellor

cc: Rev. Raymond J. Morrison, Pastor, St. Ita parish.

AOC 014707

October 21, 1976

Reverend James A. Hoder  
St. Ita Rectory  
1220 W. Catalpa  
Chicago, Illinois 60640

Dear Father Hoder:

One of my primary concerns as Archbishop of Chicago is the general apostolate and promotion of vocations. The recent Priest Senate survey also indicates that the priests of the Archdiocese share this interest.

If the generous young people of our area are to respond to the challenge of a life dedicated to the service of the Gospel, they must be made aware of the various opportunities available to them in religious life. I need your help to make this possible.

I am asking you to accept the added responsibility of being a cluster vocation director. In general, this would entail the promotion of various vocational activities in the parishes of your area or cluster. Father Roger Caplis, Vocation Director for the Archdiocese, will be in touch with you shortly in order to supply further details and answer any of your questions.

I know how busy the priests of the Archdiocese are and I would not ask you to take on this added burden if the need was not so urgent.

With my very best wishes, I remain, dear Father Hoder,

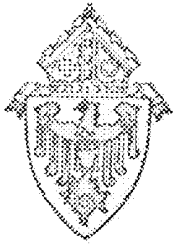
Sincerely yours in Christ,

JPC:JRK/ ag

Archbishop of Chicago

cc: Reverend Richard J. Feller, Pastor, St. Ita parish, Chicago  
Reverend Roger Caplis, Vocation Director for the Archdiocese

AOC 014708



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

Office of the Archbishop

May 21, 1982

Reverend James A. Hoder  
St. Ita Rectory  
1220 W. Catalpa  
Chicago, Illinois 60640

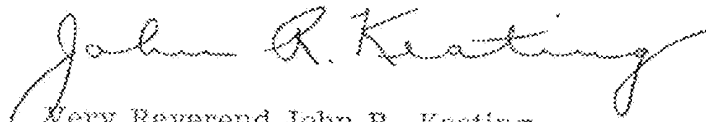
Dear Father Hoder:

In accordance with Canon 476, and following the recommendation of the Diocesan Clergy Personnel Board, I am pleased to appoint you Associate Pastor to the Reverend John J. Spitkovský, Pastor, Assumption parish (24th Street).

This appointment is effective June 8, 1982, but I would ask you to make arrangements with the Pastor about the exact date when you will assume your new duties.

Wishing you every blessing and priestly success in your new pastoral assignment, I am,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

  
Very Reverend John R. Keating  
Administrator

JRK: ag

cc: Rev. John J. Spitkovsky  
Rev. Richard J. Feller

bcc: ~~Angela Punzi~~ -- For TCC, week of \_\_\_\_\_; NOTICES; Priest's Personal File



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

Office of the Chancellor  
312/ 751-8211

May 7, 1984

Reverend James A. Hoder  
Assumption Church  
2434 S. California  
Chicago, Illinois 60608

Dear Father Hoder:

Due to the transfer of Father John Spitkovsky, the office of Pastor of Assumption Church has become vacant.

In accord with Canons 539 and 540, and by special mandate of Cardinal Bernardin, I am pleased to appoint you as Parochial Administrator of this parish. This appointment is effective immediately and will terminate with the appointment of a new Pastor.

I wish to thank you for accepting this added responsibility. I am confident that you will fulfill this office with competence, compassion, and in accord with the attached guidelines.

I am sure that the people of Assumption parish will be well served during this interim period, and that they in turn will support you in your ministry to them. Be assured of my own availability if you need any assistance.

With prayers and good wishes, I remain

Faternally yours in Christ,

Reverend Kenneth Velo  
Vice Chancellor

cc: Most Reverend Placido Rodriguez  
Reverend James J. Martin  
Reverend John Spitkovsky  
Clergy Personnel Board



## ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

*Office of the Archbishop*

May 17, 1985

Dear Father Hoder:

It gives me great pleasure to appoint you as Associate Pastor to the Reverend Millard P. O'Keefe, Pastor of Saint David parish, Chicago, Illinois. This appointment is made following the recommendation of the Clergy Personnel Board.

This appointment is effective June 1, 1985, but I would ask you to make arrangements with Father O'Keefe about the exact date you will assume your new duties.

At this time I would like to thank you for the good work you have done at Assumption parish. Your priestly ministry there has been productive of much good and also, I am sure, deeply appreciated by the people.

Know that as you begin your new assignment you have my support and prayers. I in turn ask for your prayers and support in the work that I am doing.

With cordial good wishes, I remain

Faternally yours in Christ,

Archbishop of Chicago

Reverend James A. Hoder  
Assumption Church  
2434 South California  
Chicago, Illinois 60608

cc: Reverend Millard P. O'Keefe  
Reverend Lawrence J. Craig  
Clergy Personnel Board ✓

AOC 014711

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

STATE OF TEXAS

ATTORNEY GENERAL

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OCT 22 2009

Archives & Records

AOC 014712

### Victim Statement Abstract

This abstract replaces handwritten notes by Tom Ventura, Vicar for Priests of the Archdiocese of Chicago, dated July 15, 1985, regarding a phone conversation with Victim MM. According to the notes, Victim MM stated that he was abused by Fr. James Hoder and another unidentified priest while in the seminary. Victim MM stated the alleged abuse consisted of intercourse and ended after Victim MM graduated.



## ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

October 22, 1985

*Vicar for Priests*  
800 North Clark Street, Suite 311  
Chicago, Illinois 60611  
Off: (312) 642-1837  
Res: (312) 528-0540

TO: Rev. James Hoder  
FROM: Rev. Thomas Ventura *TV*  
RE: Summary of our 10/21/85 meeting

Jim, I mentioned I would send you this summary of some of the key points of our meeting. As I said to you, I admire your generosity in wanting to help young people from your former parish, Assumption, who have been in serious trouble. I know you are especially sensitive to the fact that other adults, both familial and professional, seem to have "given up" on these young people. However, it seems that your well-intentioned efforts are frustrating the effectiveness of your overall ministry at the present time. Therefore:

1. Do not welcome these young people into the rectory.
2. Do not drive over to their area to provide transportation for them.
3. If there must be some kind of communication with them, limit it to telephone conversations.

I appreciate your cooperative attitude in our meeting yesterday, and I look forward to our next meeting on November 25, 1985, at 10:00 AM.



# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

*Fib*

Vicar for Priests  
800 North Clark Street, Suite 311  
Chicago, Illinois 60611  
Off: (312) 642-1837  
Res: (312) 528-0540

December 18, 1985

<sup>-65</sup>  
Millard O'Keefe and Jim Hoder *TV*

(Meeting with Tom Ventura)

## I. Expectations: (Millard)

2. Significant presence: People perceive Jim as a resident rather than an associate because they don't see him around. Jim's teaching takes about 6 hours per week. He also takes care of an aged, ailing father. Also because Jim is not present, Millard is not able to communicate with him about immediate concerns.

3. Personal concern: Millard worked with a priest who was considered "lazy." He was bounced from one parish to another. It was almost as if he was running away from parish responsibilities. Millard worries about a similar pattern developing in Jim's life. He seems to have a difficult time balancing his priorities between outside interests and parish duties. If something has to give, it is parish activities that go down the tube.

- eg. - working with altar boys has been irregular  
- communion calls for the sick: there have been complaints that Jim doesn't come very often.  
- Sister Lyonette: If a person works hard and effectively I tend to be passive and give them plenty of room. She does have a tendency to be domineering. I can call her on that and she can take it. You can call her on it also.  
- CCD: The perception is that you're not interested.  
- Multi-parish area ministry. It is a challenge, but it is the fact of life for our area. If it is too difficult for Jim, he should move because it is a stressful situation. There is Hispanic ministry in suburban areas which are not consolidated in area ministry situations.

## II. Expectations: (Jim Hoder)

1. Sister Lyonette: We are working better now. I understand that her frustrations are not just all me. I used to take it personally.

2. CCD: It is on Sunday and I like to be around to greet the people. I also felt like I was interrupting their lesson plan when I went into the classrooms one time.

3. Servers: With a consolidated school it is hard to identify who your kids are. What makes them identify with St. David's parish?

4. Priorities: On Sundays people ask me to do things. I don't like to say No; eg. the Cubans and their confraternity. It is hard to sort out conflicting demands. I try to be a man of prayer. I try to walk around the neighborhood and not just stay in the Rectory. It has been a slow entry, but more and more I feel at home.

5. I am the kind of person who likes to be told what to do. One Sunday I remarked that I was tired and one of the Sisters reacted as if I had said something terrible.

### III. Discussion

M. - Concerning reputation. When I hear priests making comments about one another, I consider the source. Do I respect the man making the observation or not? My real concern is that the criticisms of Jim about being lazy or a problem come from priests I respect.

Ventura - Concerns about Millard's health, about Jim's growth as an effective priest, and about Jim's dealings with some pretty crafty street kids who may take advantage of his efforts to help them. I asked Jim to avoid involvement with those youngsters, and Millard to serve as Jim's on site supervisor in this regard, and for either of them to call upon Ventura for assistance when necessary.

M. - A comment on Sister Mary's reaction about Jim saying he was tired on Sunday. She reacted to Jim's overall image rather than one specific incident.

Ventura - Talked about "significant presence" meaning to try to be at events, places, events that are important to people and to make an impact, to give recognition to people, to recognize that I am a public person, and to try to be a "ward healer" without being a phony.

Hoder - Sometimes I need people to give me a push, to alert me to events where I should be present.

Ventura - Can Millard do that for you without you getting hurt or annoyed at him being too bossy? He seems to be willing to do that if it is helpful to you.

Hoder - Can you give specifics?

Millard - The Mananitas on Guadalupe feast. The CCD program.

### IV. Specifics (40 hours a week)

M. - Jim has Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday as his teaching days. But in our consolidated parish situation those are our key work days. Monday is a business day. Friday is a good day for me, Millard, to take off so as to rest up for the Saturday afternoon-Sunday busy time. Sunday evening and Monday would be the best time for Jim to take off, in my view. That would free me. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday are days when you are needed. (Teaching from 11:45 to 2:30 including travel time could fit in OK). On Friday Jim would be the priest on call for the entire parish. Afternoons do tend to be a slower time, although we have both a morning and afternoon session to our pre-school and kindergarten. However, Tuesdays at 2:30 PM are our staff meetings.

Ventura - For our next meeting both priests will try to do a time schedule of typical week.

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Millard - I'll be on vacation and study for January. I will ask Sister Lyonette to handle the administrative matters.

NEXT MEETING: February 19 at 10:00 AM

copies: Millard O'Keefe  
Jim Hoder

VICAR FOR PRIESTS OFFICE

ACTION SHEET

ACTION TO BE TAKEN: KEEPING TRACK OF JIM HODER	DATE OF REQUEST: 5/29/99 NEEDED BY: LARRY
<p>WE NEED TO MAKE SURE THAT WE KEEP JIM ON HEALTH &amp; CAR INSURANCE.</p> <p>FIRST, A STARTING DATE STILL HAS TO BE DETERMINED.</p> <p>SECOND, HE GETS SIX MONTHS OF CAR INSURANCE AND TWO YEARS OF HEALTH INSURANCE. HE WILL DEFINITELY NEED REMINDERS WHEN EACH IS ABOUT TO LAPSE.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> URGENT PRIORITY/ASAP <input type="checkbox"/> WITHIN 48 HOURS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WITHIN REGULAR WORK SCHEDULE</p>	

RESPONSE:

FOLLOW-UP:



# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

June 23, 1987

*Vicar for Priests*  
*800 North Clark Street, Suite 311*  
*Chicago, Illinois 60611*  
*Off: (312) 642-1837*  
*Res: (312) 528-0540*

TO: Ray Goedert  
FROM: Tom Ventura *TV*  
RE: Jim Hoder (progress report)

I saw Jim Hoder today. [REDACTED]

Please contact him to make an appointment for a "progress report" and supervisory meeting in a month or two. Jim needs constant but gentle prodding. He is a complex man with many personal and professional issues to work through.

AOC 014719

TO: file

6 July 1987

FROM: T. Ventura

RE: Rev. James HODER

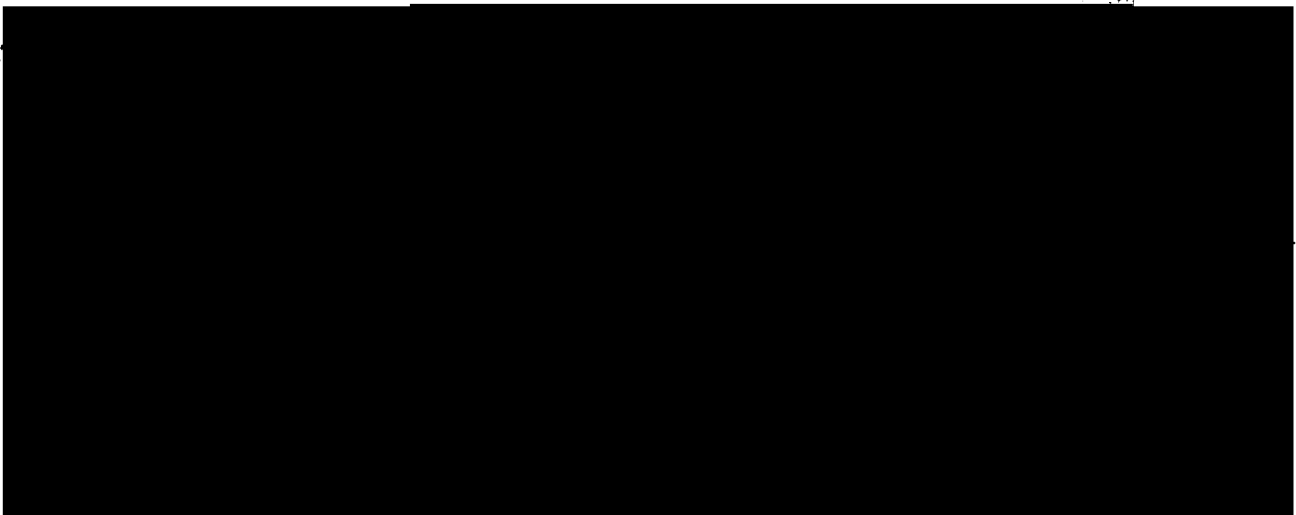
7-11-85: J. Clouse of Mercy Boys Home expressed concern that Hoder is an obstacle to their staff's efforts to help [redacted] age 15, with his problems with gangs, drugs etc. They take a discipline approach. H. is more permissive. When confronted H. is cooperative, but he fails to follow up. Clouse wanted to inform me in case he needs my assistance later.

7-23-85: [redacted] 22, former seminarian is preparing to return to Franciscan Seminary & wanted to clear his conscience about a past sexual relationship with H.  
[redacted]

8-2-85: [redacted]

8-19-85: [redacted]

8-19-85

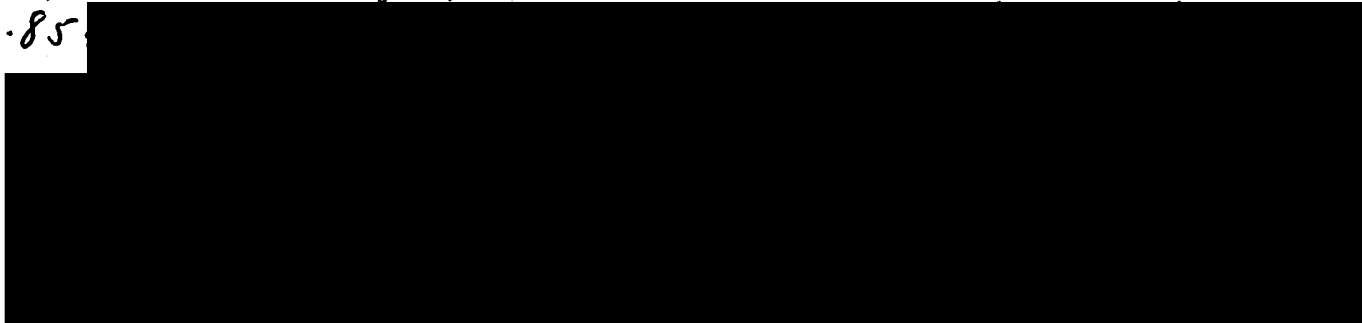


10-1-85: Contact with William O'Keefe, pastor. H. is doing good work in some ways, but also some concerns: hasn't fully unpacked after many months; slowly lifestyle; lack of presence in the parish; continues to be too involved with youth from Assumption (H. former parish.)

10-18-85: J. Craig, pastor of Assumption & Chaplain at Rudy Home says that H. means well but is not professionally trained for youth work. As a result "streetwise" youths can easily manipulate him. He is naive and can be used by them.

10-18-85: Progress report from Mr. O'Keefe. After talking with H. he has improved somewhat. Less involvement with youth. Is organizing his room. Still absent a lot however.

10-21-85



Scanned by

SEP 25 2009

Archives &amp; Records

10-21-85: K. Velo of P. Board said H. had a very spotty record as a worker. Irratic. Seems to be in his own world. Antispective. Noncommunicative. The reason his transfer was not in the normal procedure was because H. delayed decisions, missed communications and dragged out the process. Finally, the Board moved on it.

11-25-85

12-11-85: [REDACTED] complains that H. neglected communion calls (said he just forgot), is causing dissention in rectory, and is not trustworthy. M. blood pressure is up. His MD attributes it to stress about H. I suggest that the 3 of us meet about all of this.

12-18-85: Meeting with M. and H. to work out expectations, work schedule, supervision. (cf. memo)

5-12-86: Call from M. Concern that during his absence from rectory H. had a young man, age 20, as a guest. Housekeeper expressed concern to M. who is concerned about poor judgement, if not impropriety.

5-13-86: M. confronted H. about the above. He insists it was innocent but is aware of concerns.

4.

5-19-86: Meeting with M. and H. to discuss the matter. H. brought 2 pages of written reflections explaining the incident as well as his general functioning at the parish as well as his complaints about what he perceives as M's erratic behavior. Both men want to work it out. Cleared the air.  
(cf. H. paper)

8-10-86: Chancellor Rev. L. Kealy's file review surfaced a diocesan report about H. indicating constant confrontation and conflict with his parish supervisor and recommendation that priesthood ordination be delayed until this is addressed. Seminary Review Board concluded A) that these concerns be addressed B) that ordination not be delayed.

11-11-86: M. called. H. celebrated funeral for [REDACTED] (boy about Warm Case had called in 1985) who was murdered in a gang incident.

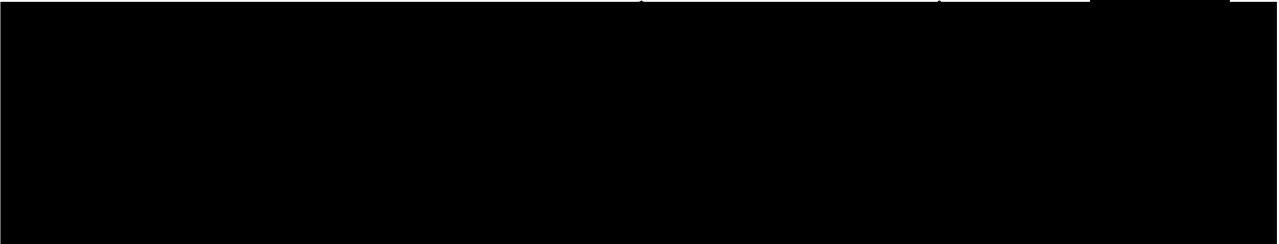
11-18-86: [REDACTED]

SEP 25 2009

Archives & Records

AOC 014723

12-10-86: He has been teaching at Carmel H.S. It has gone poorly because of classroom discipline problems. I told him to cease teaching and devote his full attention to parish work. Concern about apparent lack of effective interaction with adults and lack of organization of life & time, self-discipline.



3-13-87:

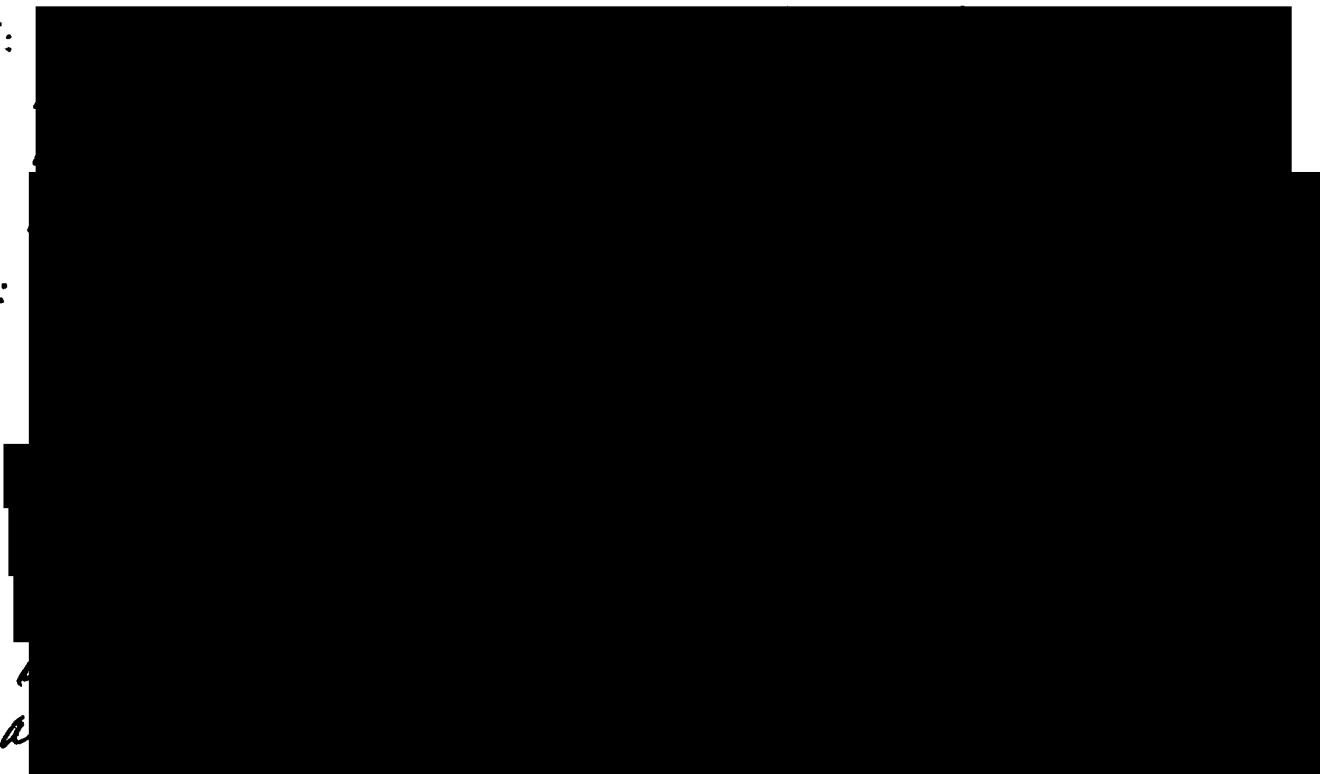
3-18-87

4-8-87

4-27-87:

5-19-87:

6-23-87:





Off: (312) 642-1837

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

800 NORTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 311

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610

TO: File (R. Goedert)

DATE: Dec. 12, 1988

RE: James Hoder

1. I talked to [REDACTED] today. I asked him if he would check out with detective [REDACTED] to see what information he might have regarding the so-called "Fr. Jimmy". [REDACTED] talked to detective [REDACTED]. He said that detective [REDACTED] is a wonderful policeman who has just been promoted to sargent. He has an excellent reputation. [REDACTED] knows him well. When he mentioned the case to sargent [REDACTED], he remembered the case clearly. He called it a "major burglary". But he was certain that there was no priest involved. He would remember, he said, if any priest had been mentioned. He has done enough covering for priests in the past and he would have been very alert to such a thing, but no one mentioned anything at all about a priest. The name "Fr. Jimmy" meant nothing to him. He was certain that it does not appear on the police report [REDACTED].

2. [REDACTED] said that in view of detective [REDACTED] promotion, he will no longer be involved with area 4 property crime, so he will have nothing further to do with the case. I agreed to call [REDACTED] in the event I get any further information. But until then, I am just going to drop the matter, as I don't think it would be fair to jeopardize a priest's reputation based on such flimsy evidence from rather unreliable sources.

### SUPERVISOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

A priest who wishes a Sabbatical should discuss the implications of his departure among colleagues with whom he shares ministry.

The appropriate supervisor colleague (pastor, agency director, or dean) must be aware of the proposal before the application is made. Even when a priest's Sabbatical comes at a time of termination/transition, there should be discussion beforehand.

A pastor whose associate is making application should understand the Archdiocesan policy that the parish continues to pay full salary (minus the \$200.00 stole honorarium) until the associate returns (maximum 6 months).

If a parish is on subsidy, the priest's salary will be paid by the Archdiocesan Parish Subsidy Fund.

If a pastor requests a Sabbatical, the dean should be informed and acknowledge that he is aware of the application.

Sabbatical Candidate Fr. Jim HODER  
Supervisor's Signature Rev. Michael P. O'Keefe  
Title PASTOR  
Date 12-16-89

N.B. Sabbatical applications are considered in the order in which they arrive. Please endorse this form and return it to the Sabbatical candidate so that he can forward it with his application.

(LEFT COLUMN BELOW FOR OFFICE USE)

Application form sent 1/1

Application returned 12/18/89

Request to Cardinal 1/1

CDM Advocate \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor/Dean letter received \_\_\_\_\_

Staff letter received \_\_\_\_\_

Clergy Personnel Board notified \_\_\_\_\_

Date approved \_\_\_\_\_

On leave \_\_\_\_\_

DATES SITES IN ORDER

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Catalog \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

PRIMARY SABBATICAL MAILING ADDRESS

Site \_\_\_\_\_

% Director \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip/Country \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL FUNDS APPROVED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

DATE AMOUNT CHECKS REQUESTED

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# SABBATICAL APPLICATION

Name JAMES HODER

Ordination 1975 Birthdate CHICAGO

Phone: Day [REDACTED] Night Same

Assigned to ST. DAVID CHURCH

Position ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Residence 3210 S. UNION

City/Zip CHICAGO ILL 60611

The letter of acknowledgement from your superior must accompany this application. Name of pastor, agency director or dean:

Rev. MILARD O'KEEFE

What is the Personnel Board's expected termination date for you?

JUNE 1990

Does the Board list you as: unknown  
extension or ☒ transition

Social Security # [REDACTED]

Base salary after July 1, 19 90 :

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Is parish receiving subsidy? Yes

While on Sabbatical your designated local contact will be:

Name [REDACTED]

Address [REDACTED]

City/Zip [REDACTED]

Phone: Day [REDACTED] Night Same

Relationship Brother

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: Priests who will be concluding a term and considering whether or not to request extension or early termination must ask the Personnel Board for status to be clarified prior to applying for a Sabbatical.

### PREVIOUS EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Chronologically list colleges, universities, graduate schools attended.

<u>INSTITUTION &amp; LOCATION</u>	<u>ATTENDED</u>	<u>DEGREE</u>	<u>CONFERRED</u>
A. <u>NILES COLLEGE</u>	<u>1967-71</u>	<u>B.S.</u>	<u>1971</u>
B. <u>St Mary of the Lake</u>	<u>1971-5</u>	<u>M.D.W.</u> <u>STB</u>	<u>1973</u> <u>1973</u>
C. _____	_____	_____	_____
D. _____	_____	_____	_____
E. _____	_____	_____	_____

Have you pursued opportunities for personal, educational, ministerial continuing growth and development?

\_\_\_\_\_ Offered by \_\_\_\_\_

Description \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Offered by \_\_\_\_\_

Description \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Offered by \_\_\_\_\_

Description \_\_\_\_\_

Continuing development may be personalized, without structured programs.  
How have you grown in your own pursuits?

Educationally - I regularly read books + magazines  
pertaining to ministry. Spiritually - I have been active  
in priest prayer groups. Taken retreats + extra  
days of recollection. I have a regular prayer time.

## PROPOSED PROGRAM

Please give a description of the plans you have, or indicate what you would like the staff of the Center for Development in Ministry to help you arrange. Your selected site/s from the Sabbatical catalog is on Page/s \_\_\_\_\_.  
If you have researched your own program, please attach a copy of the brochure. Please indicate the dates of your sabbatical program.

Dates: Summer + Fall 1990

Expenses:  
Tuition \_\_\_\_\_ Room and Board \_\_\_\_\_ Combination \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you tentatively inquired about availability? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

DATE CHRONOLOGICAL PREVIOUS ASSIGNMENTS (Beginning with current assignment)

85 - 90 St. David's

82 - 85 Assumption

75 - 82 H. He's

\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_

If you will be returning to your present ministry, what arrangements do you anticipate making for your current work while you are on leave?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Is there anything else that that Sabbatical Board should know about you or your plans for ministry, in considering your application?

I haven't chosen a site yet. I would like to talk with  
a counselor from the board. My father is 81 years old  
+ legally blind. I am his support + take care of his affairs.  
I need a site close to home (e.g. Notre Dame). There are  
other things too. But I wanted to get my form in.

ALL INFORMATION PROVIDED WILL BE CONSIDERED CONFIDENTIAL

Is your Sabbatical proposal primarily a time designed for you spiritual, intellectual, or physical renewal; or a combination?

I hope the sabbatical will be a time for all 3 goals to be renewed. I find myself feeling stuck in my ministry. It seems like I've done everything a half dozen times. I would like to lose weight, which I seem to do better when I'm not under the gun, so to speak. This time (6 months) would also help me to discover new ideas, maybe a new direction or two.

How does your program fit your service to the diocesan or parish Church?

I don't see any direct connection. But I think that I can benefit from the time, and the better I feel about myself, the better I am, the better I will be able to minister.

Evaluate your ability to pursue a Sabbatical. I am physically & mentally able to pursue a sabbatical. I'm not depressed or on the fence or anything serious. I would just like the luxury of that time.

Have you ever had a Sabbatical opportunity? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No X

When? \_\_\_\_\_

Where? \_\_\_\_\_

What? \_\_\_\_\_

19) J. Hodder

1988

Discipline: Confusion + Conflict constant w/  
supervisor. Improved over time. Sup. recommended ~~after~~  
discharge.  
Special Review Board to decide whether to  
ordain him to priesthood

Nothing else in file

2/24/90 - Milford O'Keefe said John Harrington was  
his supervisor & was amazed when they  
ordained Jim.



Off: (312) 642-1837

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

800 NORTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 311

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610

TO: File (R. Goedert)

DATE: Feb. 9, 1990

RE: James Hoder

1. Fr. Millard O'Keefe, the pastor of St. David's called. He said that Fr. Hoder's term will be expiring this June and he felt obliged to make known to me some of the situations concerning Jim. He did not think it would be very helpful to just let Jim go to another assignment without at least bringing to the attention of someone in authority the concerns that Millard has about Jim.
2. We had a very lengthy conversation and I suggested to Millard that it would be very helpful if he would write me a letter giving as many examples of erratic behavior as possible. I can then call Millard down to fill in the details.
3. Millard also said the housekeeper, [REDACTED], would like to speak to me, but she was very nervous and insists that her information be kept confidential, as she fears what Hoder might do.
4. [REDACTED] got on the phone. She has been the personal housekeeper at St. David's for 29 years. Her last name is [REDACTED].
5. [REDACTED] said that she has not spoken to anyone other than to Fr. O'Keefe. She said that Hoder is "as gay as you make them". She says the people Hoder deals with are also gay. He has a lot of literature and photos around his room and everything is of men.
6. I asked [REDACTED] how old these men were and she estimated anywhere from age 16 to 22. Some of them are definitely minors. They do go upstairs to his room. Most of the time, however, the door is left open. [REDACTED] said that Hoder is reading a gay book right now, the title of which is "The Color of My Hair".
7. [REDACTED] said Hoder is a very secretive person. She has no idea if he acts out his homosexuality. He did have a gay guy stay overnight in his room and [REDACTED] believes that they were in the same bed. He was young, about 18 years old or so. [REDACTED] said that she is a very observant woman, though not a nosey one.
8. I asked her about drugs, marijuana, etc. and she indicated that there was no incident of this that she is aware of.
9. [REDACTED] says that Hoder receives a lot of collect calls. Many of them are from jail birds. One is definitely calling him from the jail. They want [REDACTED] to accept the charges and she will refuse.
10. With regard to the parish, [REDACTED] said that Hoder is very lax and will get out of whatever work he can. [REDACTED]'s main concern was Hoder's homosexuality. She said she thinks he has "an emotional problem". She said that she knows this just by looking at him. He is no help at all to Fr. O'Keefe. One guy,

██████, who is a gay, calls a lot. None of these people are parishioners.

11. With regard to his personal habits, ██████ said he is a very "scuzzy" person. He throws all of his dirty clothes on the floor instead of using the hamper. He doesn't shower. He smells. He seems to be in a depression now and sleeps all day long. Sometimes he'll say he'll be there for supper, but doesn't show. We always have to ask him whether he is going to be in. He is no help whatsoever around the parish.

12. I asked ██████ if she had ever seen anything that appeared to be stolen in his room and she said "No".

13. After talking to ██████ Millard got back on the phone. He mentioned that ██████ spoke about pictures and he recalls that on the visor in his car there is a picture of a man, the one who arranged for Hoder to get the Mercedes. Hoder said this same man comes to the rectory frequently with a woman who is dressed in a very revealing fashion. They are from the north side and are friends of Hoder's. Whenever they come, they come together and she is always dressed in the same seductive way. Millard can't figure it out. And he wonders why, if they are husband and wife and friends of Hoder's, he doesn't have a picture of both of them on the visor instead of just the man.

ST.DAVID CHURCH  
3210 S. UNION AV.  
CHICAGO, IL. 60616  
312-842-0055

Dear Ray,

13 Feb 90

I am sending you this note to remind you of our conversation about the placement of Fr. Jim Hoder, whose term expires this coming June. I am very concerned about Jim's future assignment both for himself and for the parish that he will be serving.

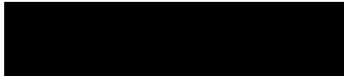
Jim has a definite lack of purpose in his sense of parish ministry. He has a definite lack of maturity and sense of judgement. He has put himself into situations that are suspect even if innocent. For example, the occasion a few years ago when he had a young man stay in his room over night when guest rooms were available. On occasion pornographic and homosexual literature has been left in the room and seem by more than one member of the staff.

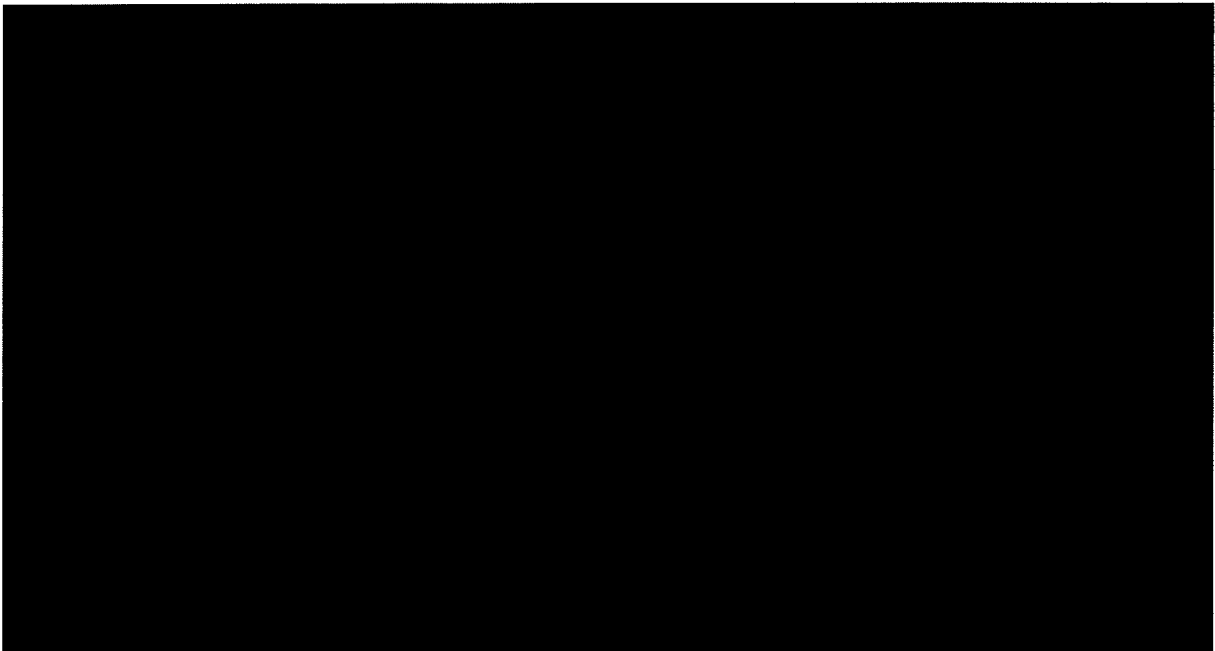
With regard to ministry and dedication it is the feeling of Sister Leonette and myself that Jim is seriously deficient in sense of purpose, dedication, responsibility and accountability. He has scheduled many meeting with the servers and not shown up or has come in late. Leading to a loss of interest in many of the youth in this ministry. He has not taken the invitation of our CCD and BCA staffs to come and invite the youth to this ministry. He has just recently not taken care of a repair to one of our staff vehicles which could lead to a serious accident. He has inferred to communion calls that weekly visits are a great inconvenience to the staff. He has shown a lack of direction and preparation in dealing with our RCIA program. There is a constant necessity to check and supervise Jim as if he were a 15 year old seminarian instead of priest ordained 15 years.

In addition to this there is a marked deterioration in his personal hygiene and appearance which has been called to his attention privately by Sr. Leonette. I am concerned about his health as his weight is getting to the point of morbid obesity. On a recent occasion he went to a wake and was not recognized as a priest because of his appearance and he did not introduce himself as such and the family complained about his lack of presence since they did not know he had ben there. The cavalier attitude he displayed in handling the matter was a scandal to the staff person who had to convey the request for a visit to him. There is still a problem about the way he keeps his room so much so that on occasion the exterminators have said his room is a breeding ground for bug. The housekeeper has all but given up on making his room neat and she prides herself on the neatness of our home where she has worked for 29 year.

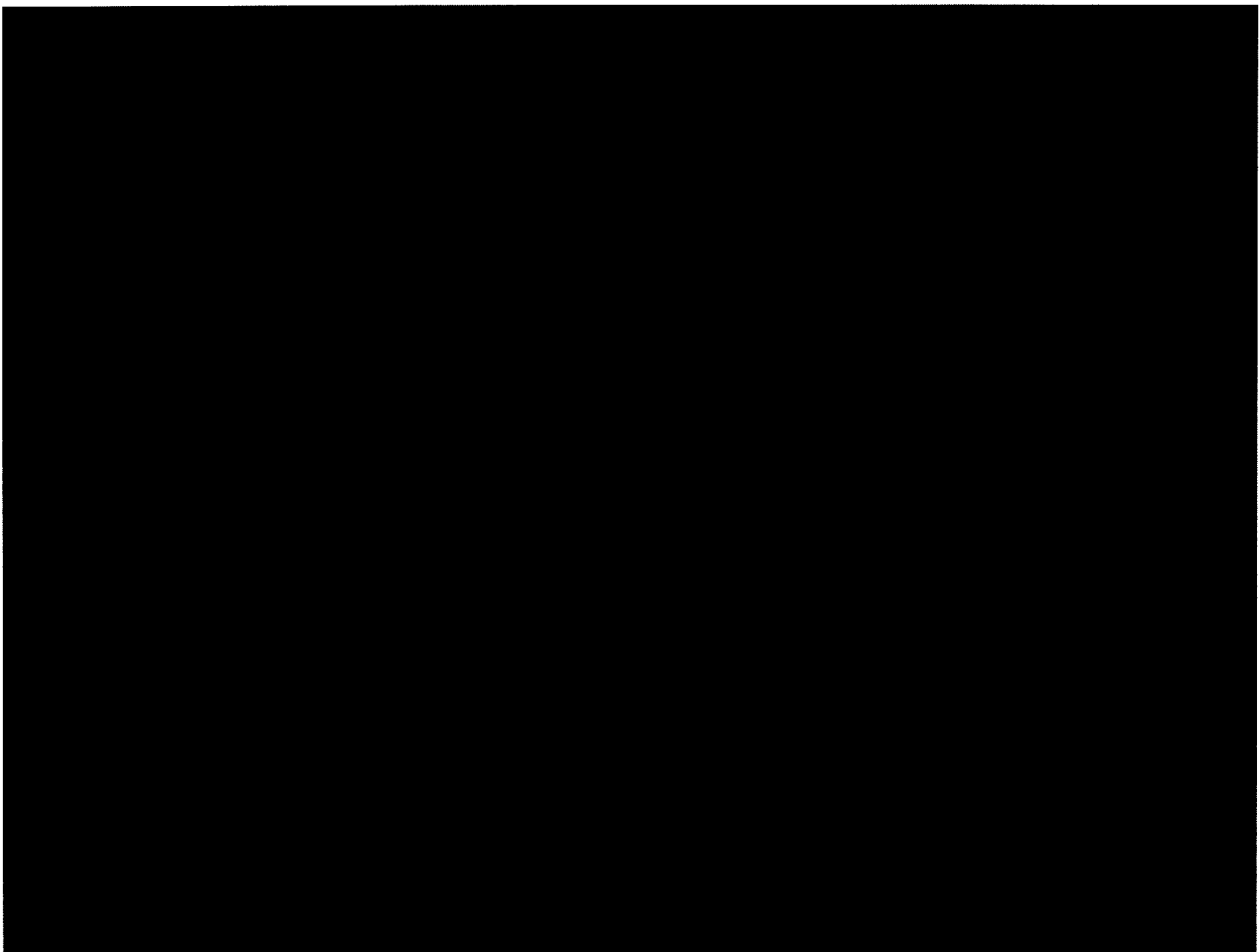
All this indicated to me that Jim has some very serious problems that are not being dealt with adequately at this time. I write this to you because I feel I have gone as far as I can go and have been frustrated, but I am concerned that Jim receive the help he needs to be a good priest or if this is part of his problem that he be able to deal with it now. Right now I feel that he cannot function effectively as a priest, is a danger to himself in terms of health and hygiene and would be more problem than help to any parish or pastor. Sr. Leonette and I wish to be helpful in anyway that we can in helping Jim to deal with his problems that he might be happy in whatever course his life takes in the future.

Thank you for hearing me,  
Yours in Christ,





Fr. Hoder, Associate at St. David, is open to the area, but is not limiting himself to thinking only about this area for ministry.





ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

800 NORTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 311  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610

Off: (312) 642-1837

TO: File (R. Goedert)

DATE: March 8, 1990

RE: James Hoder

1. Millard O'Keefe, the pastor at St. David's, came in to see me together with Sr. Leonette, the Pastoral Associate. Their purpose was to discuss Jim Hoder. Jim's term expires in June and he will be moving on. Millard's concern is that Jim would just go into another assignment and the same problems would develop again. Millard has nothing to gain or lose and could easily walk away from all of this and just let the chips fall where they may. But he feels he owes it to Jim to try to get him to seek the help he needs.
2. The first issue Millard and Sister talked about was Jim's health. Jim is not taking care of himself at all. They estimated that his waist-line is at least 50 inches. He is an over-eater and he has just let himself go as far as his personal appearance is concerned. He looks very sloppy and has a very poor self-image.
3. With regard to ministry, Jim has no sense of this at all. Jim is gone from the parish much more than he is present. He does do a class with the pre-school children, but that is about all. He is supposed to be involved in RCIA and the giving of instructions, but he does it poorly. Either he doesn't want to do these things or he just can't. He also is in charge of altar boys, but he cancels practices so frequently that the altar boys just lose heart and give up. Instead of training the kids himself, he lets their older brothers who are altar boys do it. The altar boys have disintegrated at St. David's. Jim never initiates anything. He is extremely nervous at the altar. Sister said he is constantly picking on his fingers.
4. Jim rarely eats meals at the rectory. He will sometimes say he is going to be there, but more often than not, he does not show. The only thing he does with regularity is liturgical events where he can pick up a little extra pocket money. For instance, Jim is always anxious to have the Michael Reese beeper because it means \$50 per call. There is just no sense of liturgy, especially on special occasions. He even does announcements poorly and if Millard really wants to get a message across, he has to do it himself. Jim would follow a plan if Sister worked it out step by step. But otherwise, he is very insecure and confused at the liturgies.
5. Jim shows no initiative. He does not have the ability to follow through on anything. He will promise to do something, but then doesn't. Sister will even indicate what has to be done with regard to RCIA and then he'll turn around and do whatever he pleases.
6. Socially, Jim doesn't relate well at all. All his friends seem to be outsiders. They are either young kids from Assumption or people from St. Ita's. He is very close to the Philipino couple at St. Ita's. There is also a 65 year old man, [REDACTED] a musician, and Millard thinks he's from

St. Ita's. This man takes care of Jim's finances. [REDACTED] and the kids make a lot of phone calls to the rectory. A number of them are Hispanic kids from Assumption. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and a number of the kids will call collect and of course Jim won't accept the call. That way they tip him off and he returns the call so they in effect are avoiding paying the telephone company. [REDACTED] changed his clothes once in the parlor and just left the clothes on the floor, and then Jim expected [REDACTED] the housekeeper, to clean up.

7. Jim's room is always dirty looking, totally disorganized. Jim seems to be a praying person and he prepares his sermons well. He does give good homilies. But money is a big obsession with him. For example, he took four or five of the ladies to the CCW meeting downtown and he charged each one \$3. He doesn't come right out and say that the charge is \$3, but the ladies kind of know what the score is and they will ask him if \$2 or \$3 will do and he will say "yes". In other words, he manipulates them into paying.

8. Jim has no practical sense. He bought 800 Easter Eggs for 5¢ a piece because it was a good deal and he intended to sell them for a quarter. But people wouldn't buy them and he eventually had to give them away. He is a real enigma. There is so much good in him, but so much that counteracts the good. Jim admitted to Tom Ventura that he wouldn't do things unless someone was on his back. He seems to be confused as to what a priest's role is in today's Church.

9. Jim spends a lot of money on gadgets, toys. For example, he has little remote control cars and airplanes. He bought a big flashlight and seems to enjoy shining it in the sky. It's like dealing with a 15 year old. His sense of judgement is like a teenager's.

10. Jim is gone a lot, claiming that he has to be away to take care of his 80 year old father. His father is a retired policeman and Millard thinks that a lot of things are covered up because of the police fraternity. Millard said that Jim was assigned to visit hospitals once a week, but he balked at doing it. He preferred to send cards. He doesn't want to be involved in any parish meetings that will tie him down. He is gone most of the time. He goes to the opera on Monday nights and sees just about every movie in town. And when he should be on duty, he's not there.

11. Sister said that we ask lay people to volunteer their services after they have worked an eight-hour day and have taken care of their own responsibilities at home. We're lucky if Jim puts in a three-hour day at best. He leaves after Mass on Sunday and Monday is his day off and while he is supposed to be back early Tuesday morning, frequently it's much later in the day. And even if he is in the rectory, you can't really depend on him and he will frequently not accept calls. And on Friday when Millard is supposed to be off, Jim will be gone most of the day.

12. Jim used to go out at 10 P.M. and return at 2 A.M. Millard has no idea where he would be going. Millard doubts if they get 20 hours of work a week out of him.

13. At Assumption, the cook would prepare the meals early in the day because she had to leave. While the meal hour was set, Jim would rarely be there. He would just eat whenever he felt like it. He doesn't like to be tied down to a schedule.

14. Lately, Jim has been very nervous about the change of assignment. Millard spoke to Ray Cusack and Don Nevins and he told them that he didn't think that any other pastor should have to go through this. I have to talk to the Personnel Board to make sure that they do not put Jim on open listing, or at least that they don't assign him any where until we are sure he is being treated for whatever his problems are.

15. Millard said that Jim's best friend or closest friend seems to be Rich Simon. Jim used to hang around with Scott Plasek and Scott's death shook Jim up. He also seems to play tennis with Joe Fitzharris and a number of the older priests.

16. Millard said that Jim was a Deacon at Providence of God and John Harrington, the Pastor, recommended to the Seminary that he not be ordained. Dick Feller had trouble with Jim at St. Ita's and Larry Craig had the same difficulties with him at Assumption. His appointment to St. David came through Ken Velo, not the Personnel Board. Evidently the Board couldn't find anyone willing to take him. Jim is afraid of anything new, of structures in which he is not in control. His lifestyle reminds one of a addict.

17. Neither Millard nor Sister mentioned anything about homosexuality, so I raised the question. Sister said that he definitely doesn't deal with women well. He resents Sister very much. There is homosexual literature in his room. His friends are all young males. Before Jim had to meet with Tom Ventura, he used to hang around with a lot of kids who were minors, but that has stopped. But all of his friends are young males, even some of whom are under 18. He had one kid overnight in his room even though there were two other guest rooms available. Jim claims that the kid was scared, but Millard said that the kid made his way all the way from Mexico to Chicago, and if he could do that, he surely wouldn't have been afraid to stay overnight in a room by himself. Sister said she definitely thought Jim is homosexual. He is extremely belligerent towards women and shows them no respect. He treats them like dirt. Millard said that while he has no proof of anything, the phone conversations that he would over-hear between Jim and those who call him are like two girls talking, or a guy and his date. Jim asked them what they had for dinner, etc., things that men normally wouldn't be interested in.

18. Millard said that there is a basic dishonesty about Jim. He went to Mexico and was making arrangements to get one of those shared time condos. He made the deal but then backed out. He had signed a note for \$10,000, but then he wrote a letter claiming that his credit card was stolen. He should have just said that he wasn't interested, because those kinds of deals do give you time to change your mind.

19. Both Millard and Sister are willing to confront Jim, if necessary.

20. The way Jim uses money, Millard can see why he's in trouble. He spent a thousand dollars to buy a big stereo unit that he didn't really need. He bought a Mercedes for \$10,000 from his friend and he also has a junk automobile. It wouldn't surprise Millard if Jim bought something that was "hot". Jim gets his rear end covered because his father was a policeman.

21. We agreed that Millard and Sister will meet with Jim next week to tell him that they have been down to see me and Millard will tell me once that has been accomplished. I will then call Jim in and see what's going on.



Off: (312) 642-1837

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

800 NORTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 311

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610

TO: File (R. Goedert)

DATE: March 8, 1990

RE: James Hoder

1. I spoke to Ray Cusack today. Ray wanted to know if Jim should stay on the open listing, since he is up for a change. I told him that there was no way Jim was going to be allowed to take another assignment. In the light of my conversation with Millard O'Keefe and Sr. Leonette, I am going to have to call Jim in, etc.

2. However, since I just met with Millard O'Keefe and Sr. Leonette today and they will have to notify Jim that they were in to see me, after which time I will call Jim in, Ray and I thought the better procedure might be to leave him on the open listing and then after I have met with him I will notify the Personnel Board to take him off. That way Hoder won't feel as though someone leaked information to the Personnel Board before he even had a chance to defend himself to me, etc.

April 17, 1990

I spoke to Ed Fialkowski today and asked him to make sure that they put a question mark after Jim's name, with regard to a future assignment.

[REDACTED] I will get back to the Board as soon as I know something definite.



Off: (312) 642-1837

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

800 NORTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 311  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610

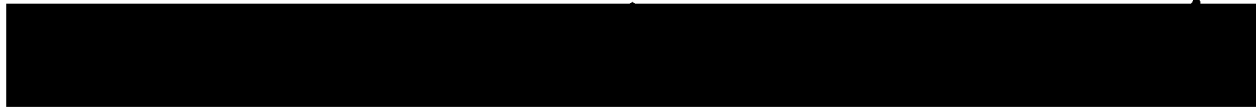
TO: File (R. Goedert)

DATE: March 15, 1990

RE: James Hoder

1. Millard O'Keefe called. He said that he and Sister informed Jim that they had been to see me, etc. Jim began to make all sorts of excuses. Either he wasn't trained to do something or he didn't think priests should do it, etc., etc.

2. Millars said Jim was quite upset and began to rant and rave about "downtown", etc., so Millard thinks that I might be in for a lot of flack from him. I agreed that I would see Jim privately and only if he denies everything will I ask Millard and Sister Leonette to come back.



*3/30/90 - I called Jim - not home - left a mess. - no response.*  
*3/31/90 - I called Jim at 1:15 P.M. - not at home - left a mess.*



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS  
800 NORTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 311  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610

Off: (312) 642-1837

TO: File

DATE: March 26, 1990

RE: James Hoder

1. On the occasion of the Pastor's Overnight, I talked to Millard O'Keefe about Jim Hoder. I told him that I was not able to contact Jim yet. Fr. O'Keefe was concerned because Jim is talking in terms of taking a sabbatical after his transfer from St. David. [REDACTED]

2. On March 30 I called Fr. Hoder at 4:45 P.M. He was not in and I left a message. He did not return the call.

3. On March 31, 1990 I called Fr. Hoder. He was not in. I left a message.



Off: (312) 642-1837

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

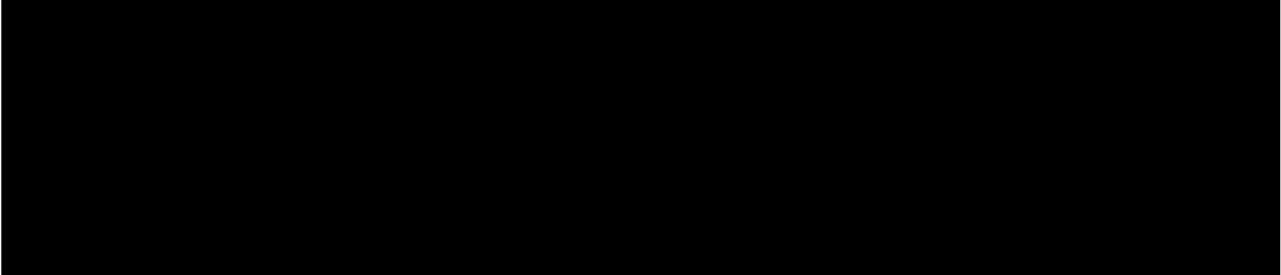
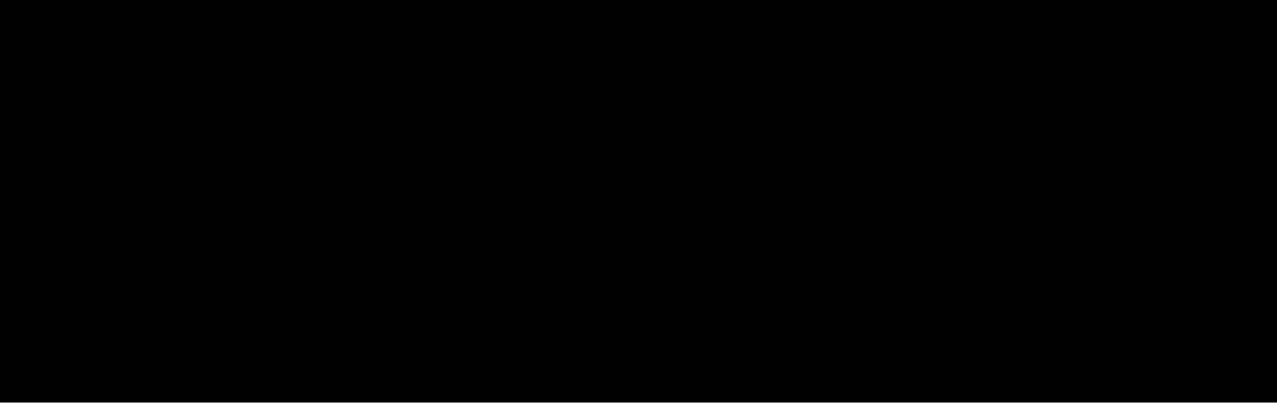
VICAR FOR PRIESTS  
800 NORTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 311  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610

TO: File

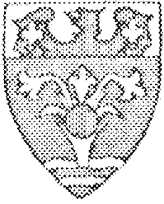
DATE: April 9, 1990

RE: James Hoder

1. James Hoder, ordained in 1975, is the Associate Pastor at St. David.



8. I called Ray Cusack after my meeting with Jim to let him know the situation. Ray was not aware that Jim was going to take a sabbatical. Ray agreed that he thought that the sabbatical would be an excellent idea for Jim, particularly if he is thrown in with other healthy people who might be able to help him to pull his life together. Jim's weight is enormous. Millard had said he thought his waist was 50 inches and I firmly do believe that. I suggested to Ray Cusack that they simply allow the process to continue and let's see whether or not any pastor is willing to take Jim.



UNIVERSITY of SAINT MARY OF THE LAKE  
CENTER FOR DEVELOPMENT IN MINISTRY

April 12, 1990

Rev. Eugene F. Lauer  
Center for Continuing Formation in Ministry  
University of Notre Dame  
1201 Hesburgh Library  
Notre Dame, IN 46566

Dear Fr. Eugene,

As you know, I have recommended several of our priests from the Archdiocese of Chicago for your program at Notre Dame. I would now like to recommend Fr. James Boder. He is anxious to attend your program and has been a priest in good standing with the Archdiocese for fifteen years.

I hope you will consider him for your Fall 1990 program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Wayne".

Rev. Wayne F. Priest  
Director of Continuing Education, Archdiocese of Chicago

WFP:mb

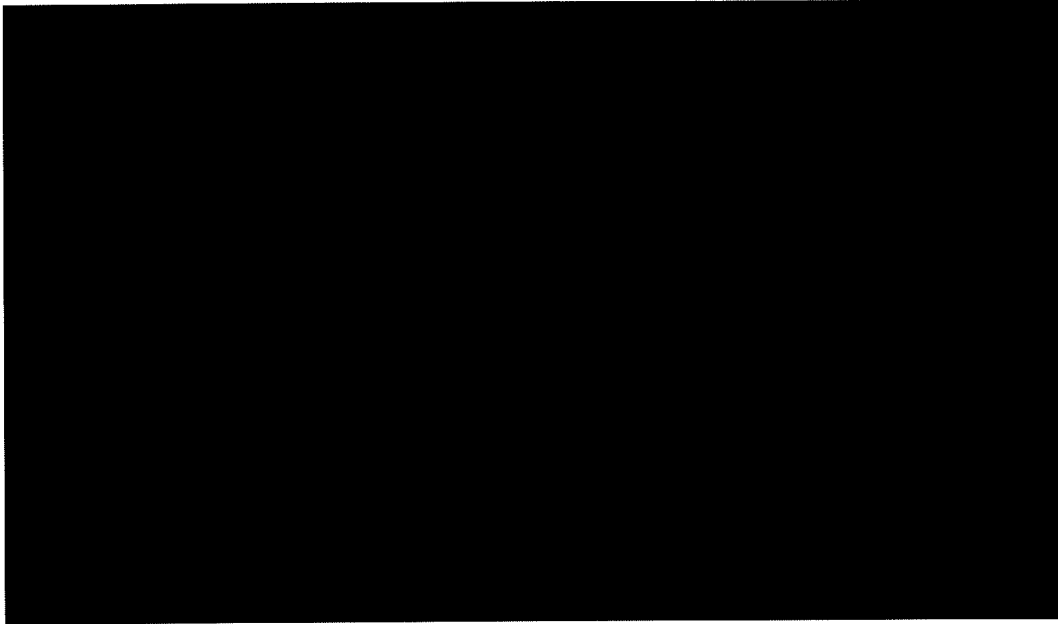
14.

15.

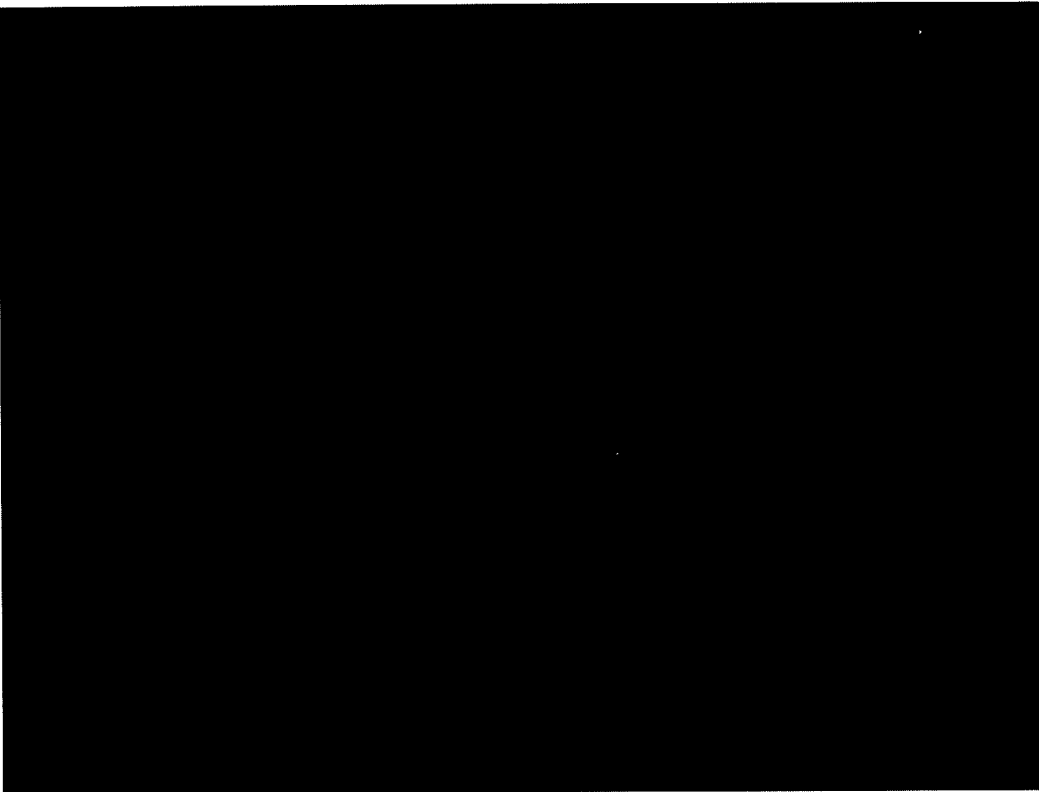
16.

17. James Hoder '75: Jim has received permission from the Sabbatical Board for a sabbatical and placement at Notre Dame in their sabbatical program.

18.



17. James Hoder '75: Jim has received permission from the Sabbatical Board for a sabbatical and placement at Notre Dame in their sabbatical program.



# SABBATICAL PROPOSAL

DATE: April 26, 1990 SPECIAL CONSIDERATION

NAME: Rev. James Hoder

ADVOCATE: Dean Semmer

DATES OF SABBATICAL: From Aug. 15 July 1, 1990 to Feb. 15 December 31, 1990

## DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAM:

Jim would like to spend the first month of his sabbatical driving through Mexico visiting the areas where the families of his parish are from. Jim then wants to visit with his brother in Seattle for 10 days. The major component of Jim's sabbatical is to attend the program at Notre Dame University (August 15 - December 15). Jim plans to spend the last two weeks with his father.

working in parish Jan 1-12 Vacation in CA  
21-28 Medjugorje  
rest of time: 5 days in Miami +  
working in parish

## BUDGET

FISCAL YEAR 1990 - 1991

\$ 775	Per Diem travel in Mexico (\$25/ day for 31 days)
200	Per Diem travel in U. S. ( \$20/ day for 10 days)
1750	Tuition at Notre Dame
2680	Room and Board at Notre Dame
<u>\$5405</u>	

After his sabbatical Jim plans to take another assignment.

SALARY PAID BY: APSE MONTHLY AMOUNT: \$950 approx.

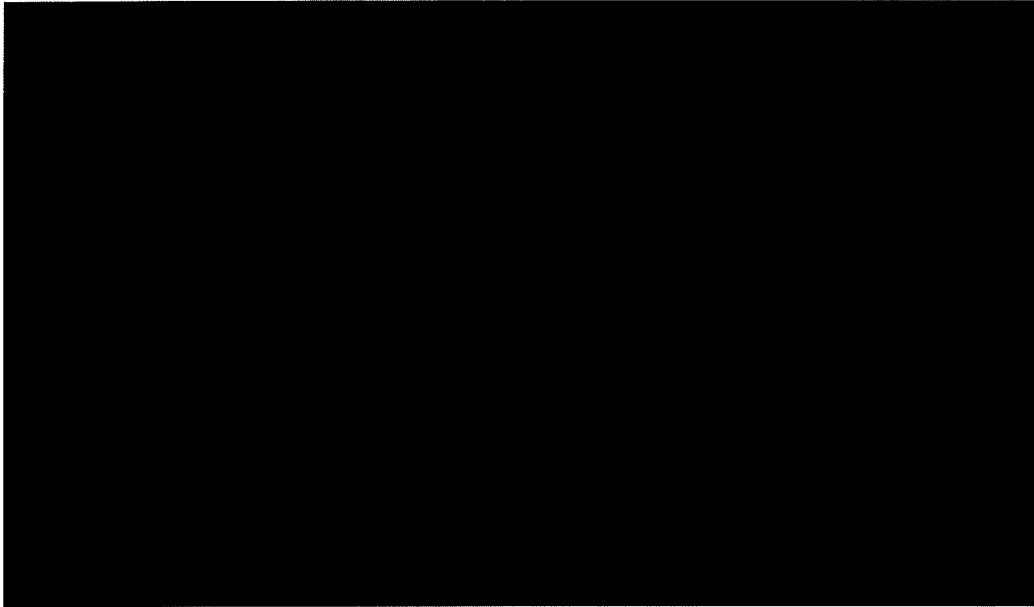
TRANSITION X RETURN TO SAME ASSIGNMENT \_\_\_\_\_ RETIREMENT \_\_\_\_\_

SUPERVISOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT YES X NO \_\_\_\_\_

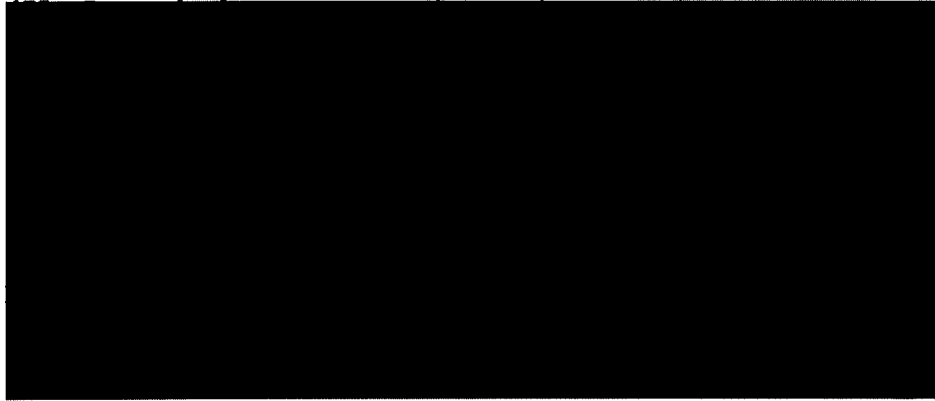
## ADVOCATE'S RECOMMENDATION:

I would recommend Jim's sabbatical program from July 1, 1990 to December 31, 1990 with a budget of \$5000.

DATE OF APPROVAL BY BOARD: \_\_\_\_\_

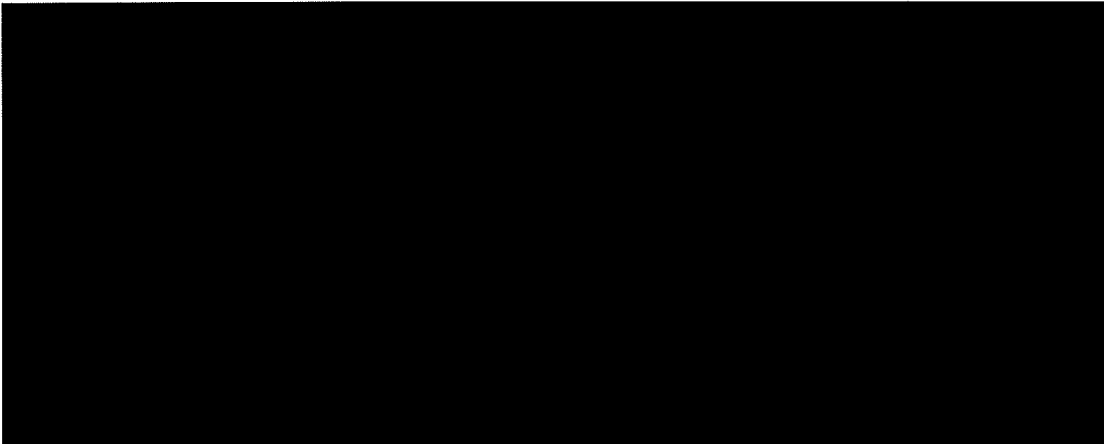


27. Sabbatical Board: Vic Sivore reports that the Sabbatical Board has approved the sabbaticals for these priests. James Hoder



IV.

V.



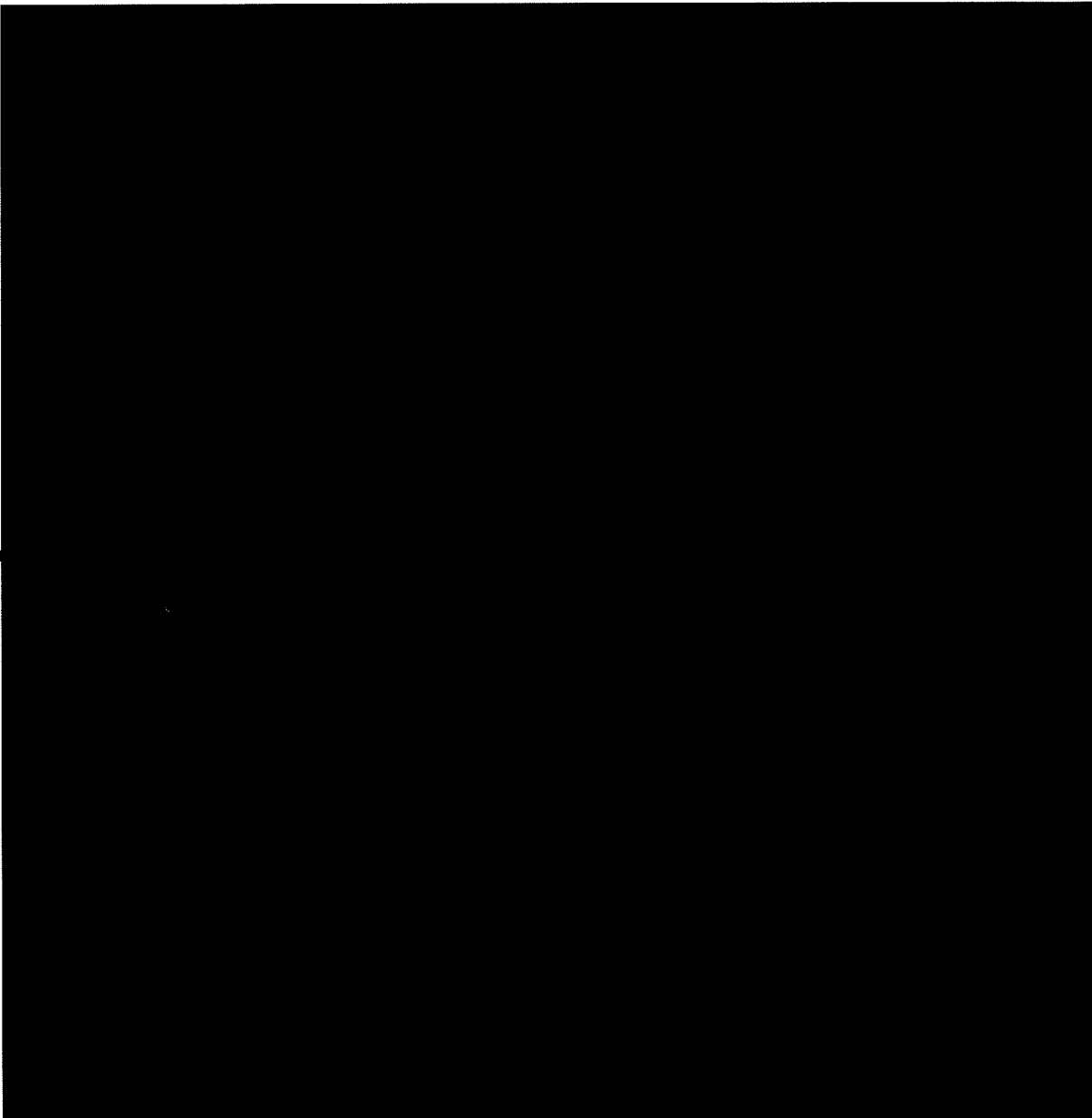
DOCUMENT 2

PARISHES AND PERSONNEL AFFECTED BY CONSOLIDATION AND AMALGIMATION  
BY  
JUNE 1990

PARISH

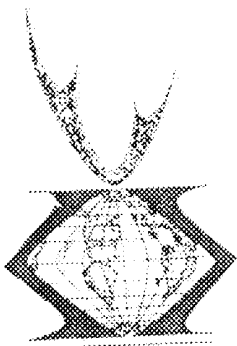
PRIESTS

COMMENTS



St. David

Millard P. O'Keefe  
James Hoder  
(continued on page 2)



The Center for Continuing Formation in Ministry  
(formerly The Institute for Clergy Education)  
University of Notre Dame

1201 Hesburgh Library  
Notre Dame, Indiana 46556

Office of the Director  
Telephone: (219) 239-5128  
Cable Address: DU-LAC

CONFIDENTIAL RECOMMENDATION FOR  
PARTICIPANT IN THE NOTRE DAME CCFM

Sr. James A. Hader Session Fall 1990  
Rev. \_\_\_\_\_

In order to be of the most effective service to the person named above who seeks to be part of the Notre Dame program, we ask that you respond as fully and carefully as you can to the questions below. We have neither the facilities nor the personnel to care for persons who have serious physical or emotional problems.

- 1) The person named above is a member in good standing of my Diocese/Province. YES ☒ NO ☐

COMMENTS:

- 2) He/she has GOOD PHYSICAL HEALTH. (If there is need for any special physical care, please note it specifically).  
YES ☒ NO ☐

COMMENTS:

- 3) He/she has SOUND MENTAL HEALTH. (If there is emotional instability, any alcohol or chemical dependency, or any problem with pedophilia, please note it specifically).  
YES ☒ NO ☐

COMMENTS:

- 4) Is there any relevant information which would help us serve this person, e.g., difficulties with adjustment to changes since Vatican II, major problems in previous assignments, etc.?  
(Please use the other side of this page.)

SIGNED

Wayne F. Drist

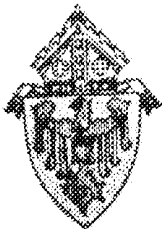
POSITION Director of Continuing Education

DATE

6-1-90

Please return this to:

Eugene F. Lauer, Director, CCFM  
1201 Hesburgh Library  
University of Notre Dame  
Notre Dame, IN 46556



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

*Office of the Archbishop*

June 12, 1990

Dear Jim,

In light of the recommendation of the Sabbatical Board, I am pleased to grant your request for a Sabbatical beginning July 1, 1990, through December 31, 1990. Please inform Fathers Ken Velo and Wayne Prist of your address(es) during this time.

This appointment is made with the understanding that you will seek a new assignment upon your return.

Following Archdiocesan and Sabbatical Board Policy, the Archdiocesan Parish Subsidy Fund will pay your salary for the period of the six-month sabbatical. The Center for Development in Ministry will pay tuition, room and board expenses with special funding provided by the Archdiocese.

May I take this opportunity to thank you for your fine work at St. David as well as for your fifteen years of service to the Archdiocese.

As you look forward to this important transition in your priesthood, please know that you have my support and prayers. Please pray for me as well.

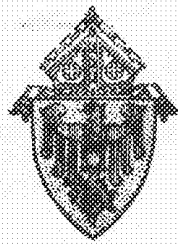
With cordial good wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

*Joseph Card. Bernardin*  
Archbishop of Chicago

Reverend James Moder  
St. David  
3210 South Union  
Chicago, Illinois 60616

cc: Reverend Kenneth Velo  
Reverend Wayne Prist  
Diocesan Priests' Personnel Board  
Reverend Millard O'Keefe  
Mr. Jack Benware



Memo from

Rev. Kenneth Velo

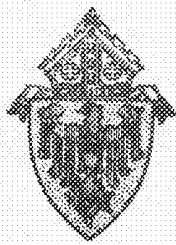
To: Father Roder Date: 6/12/80

Sir,

I apologize that a mistake was made on your appointment letter for Sabbathal regarding Saint David Parish.

Please disregard the letter of June 11th as a corrected letter is being sent to you.

*Kenneth Velo*



Memo from

Rev. Kenneth Velo

To: Father O'Scufa Date: 6/13/90

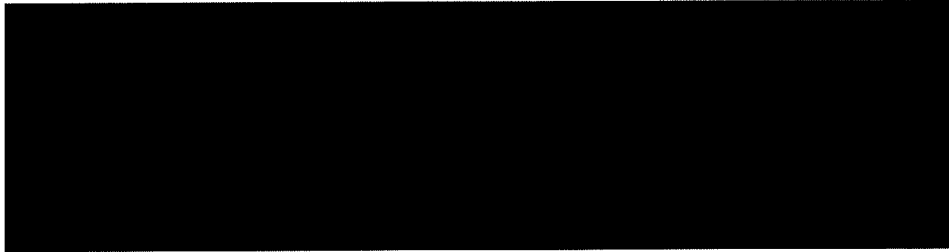
Millard,

I apologize that a mistake was made on a copy of the letter you received regarding Saint David Parish.

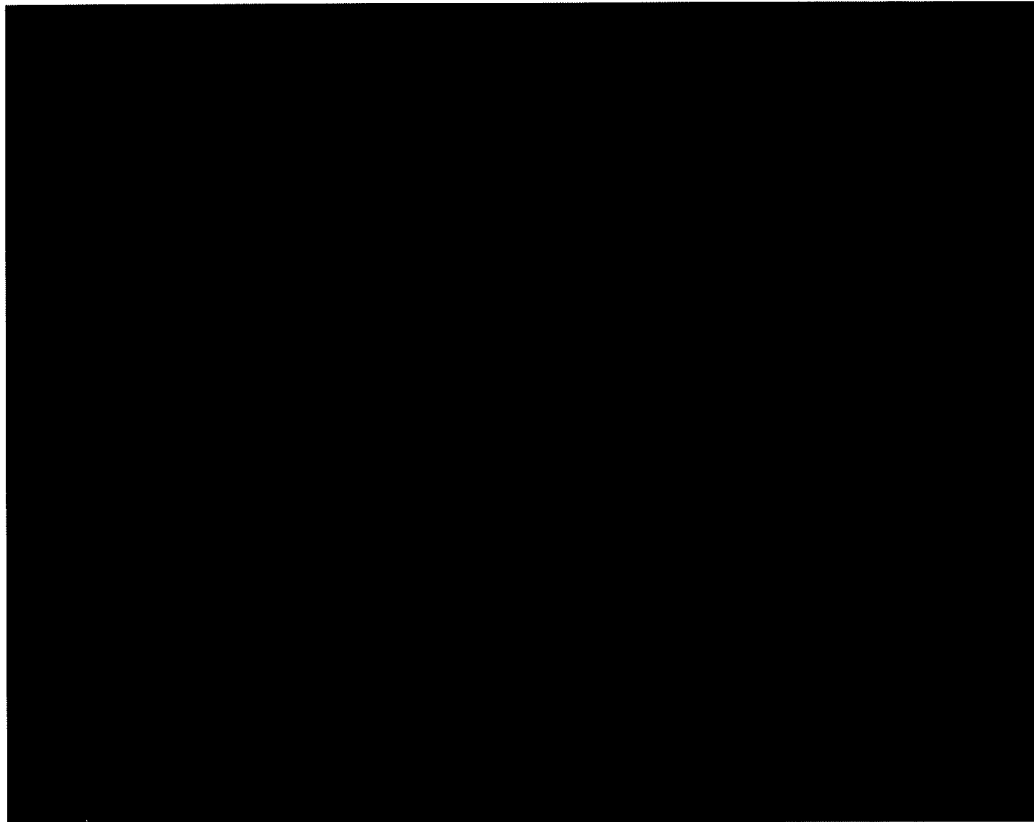
Please disregard the previous letter (June 11, 1990) as the Cardinal is sending you a copy of a corrected letter. (Cf. attached)

*K. Velo*

21. Sabbatical Board: The Sabbatical Board has granted the following priests sabbaticals:

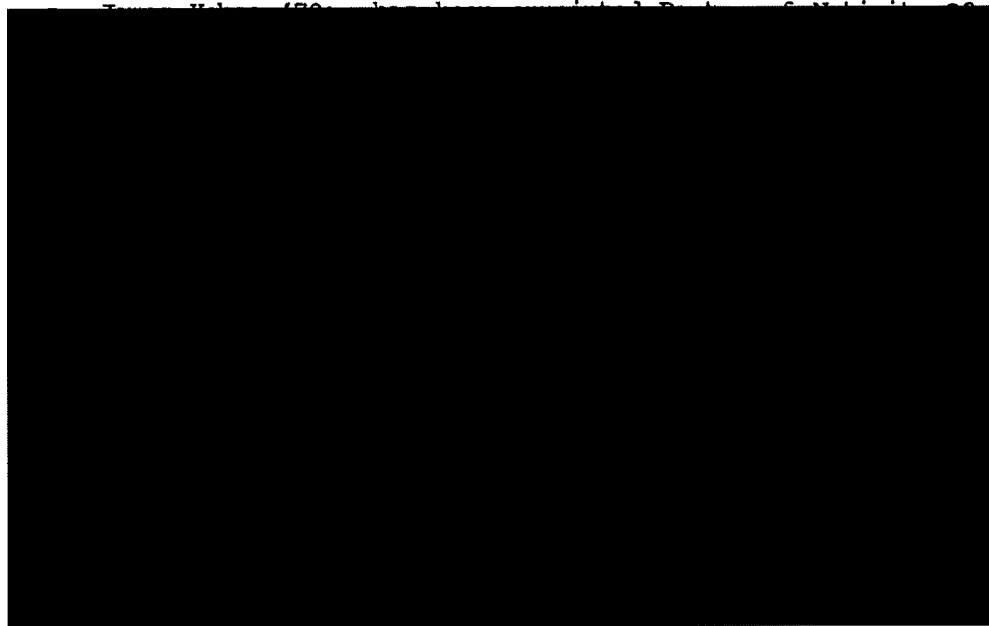


- d) James Hoder '75: from 7/1/90 to 12/31/90 returning to seek a new assignment.

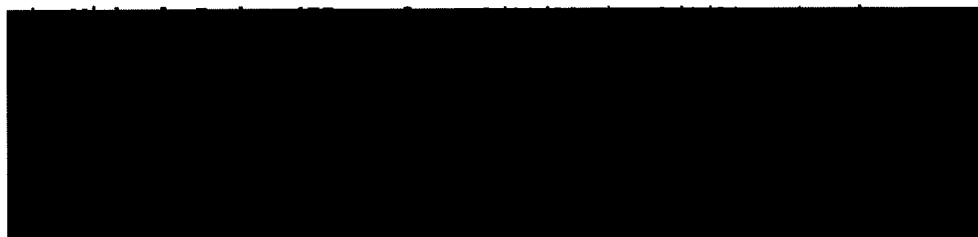


# Excerpt: Diocesan Priests' Placement Board, 6/15/1990

Page 402

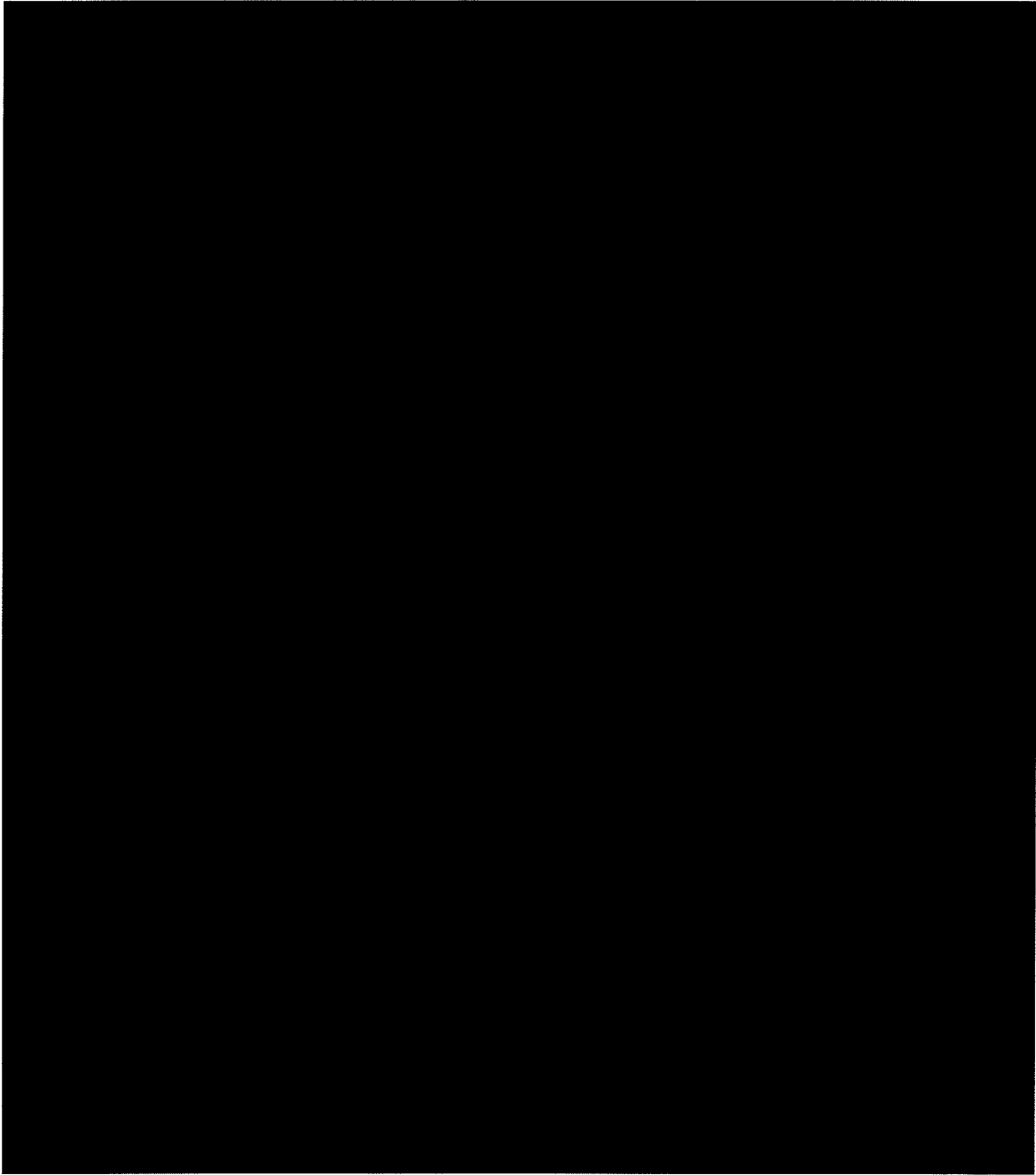


21. Sabbatical Board: The Sabbatical Board has granted the following priests sabbaticals:



- d) James Hoder '75: from 7/1/90 to 12/31/90 returning to seek a new assignment.



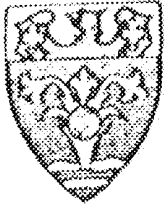


II. Archdiocesan Priests:  
The following priests will probably be available for placement on  
the indicated dates:

Page 417

James Hoder '75

12/31/90



UNIVERSITY of SAINT MARY OF THE LAKE  
CENTER FOR DEVELOPMENT IN MINISTRY

TO: Mr. Jack Benware  
FROM: Rev. Wayne F. Prist  
RE: Extra Funding for Sabbaticals because of consolidations  
and closings (Special Considerations)  
DATE: July 20, 1990

Because the Sabbatical Board had recommended and the Cardinal has approved enough sabbaticals for '90-'91 fiscal year to use up the entire budget there was need to provide opportunities for priests in transition. The Cardinal promised that we would make the sabbatical opportunity available to those affected by recent closings and consolidations.

Funding for these Special Considerations is to come from the PRMAA. Enclosed is their April 6th memo. You will notice that the money is to be requested through your office. CDM will administer the check requests for program expenses only through the University of St. Mary of the Lake Business Office, which will then be reimbursed by the funding provided. Your office will administer the salaries for these priests.

The estimate was for 5 to 8 priests. To this date we have approved special consideration sabbaticals for the following people in this present fiscal year '90-'91:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

Rev. James Hoder '75  
\$5,000.00 + salary

~~July 1, 1990 - December 31, 1990~~

Aug. 15, 1990  
Feb. 15, 1991

There may be additional names submitted because we said we would accept applications for special considerations to September 1, 1990.

If you have any questions please call me.

*Q. Quash  
note this  
change this  
become this  
positive please.*  
*W.F.P.*

Merleanne Hiett

7/24/90

Fr. Hodar has been looking after the parish while his pastor is ill. Dean Semmer called CDM on 7/23 to see if Fr. Hodar could change his dates to Aug 15, 1990 - Feb. 15, 1991 because of this.

Fr. Pirst spoke w/ Personnel Board who said that would be up to to pastor. →

Fr. Rist called Millard  
O'Keefe who approved the  
date changes for Fr.  
Hoden's Sabbatical.

APM sent Mr. Jack Benware  
notice of the date change.

## CHECK VOUCHER

SENT TO:

X LAURA

BUSINESS OFFICE

CHECK AMOUNT: \$ 1,750.00

PAYABLE TO:

Center for Continuing Formation in Ministry  
1201 Hesburgh Library  
Univ. of Notre Dame  
Notre Dame, IN 46556

GLM CODE

DESCRIPTION

AMOUNT

Tuition, Fees & Testing 1,750.00  
for Fr. Jim Hoda

REMARKS:

For Sabbatical. Please return to Merleanne Hiett.

DATE:

7/31/90

MERCHANDISE REC'D BY: \_\_\_\_\_

INVOICE EXTENSION O.K.: \_\_\_\_\_

O.K. TO PAY: WHP

1. VENDOR NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_
2. INVOICE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_
3. DISCOUNT AMT. \_\_\_\_\_
4. INVOICE AMT. \_\_\_\_\_
5. INVOICE DATE \_\_\_\_\_
6. DUE DATE \_\_\_\_\_
7. DISCOUNT DATE \_\_\_\_\_
8. A/P ACCT. CODE (1) \_\_\_\_\_

G/L ACCOUNT

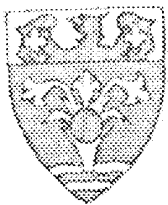
AMOUNT

5 4 8 0 0 0 0 0  
0 0  
0 0

\$ 1,750.00

TOTAL

\$ \_\_\_\_\_



UNIVERSITY OF SAINT MARY OF THE LAKE  
CENTER FOR DEVELOPMENT IN MINISTRY

August 15, 1990

Brothers of Holy Cross  
Holy Cross Brothers Center  
Notre Dame, IN 46556

Dear Brothers,

I am enclosing a check in the amount of \$2,875.00 for room and board for Fr. James Hoder. He will be attending the Fall 1990 program at CCFM.

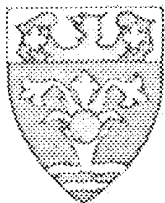
Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Merleanne Hiett".

Ms. Merleanne Hiett  
Secretary, Archdiocesan Sabbatical Board

cc: Rev. James Hoder



UNIVERSITY of SAINT MARY OF THE LAKE  
CENTER FOR DEVELOPMENT IN MINISTRY

August 15, 1990

Mary Ann Wukovits  
Center for Continuing Formation in Ministry  
University of Notre Dame  
1201 Hesburgh Library  
Notre Dame, IN 46556

Dear Mary Ann,

I am enclosing a check in the amount of \$1,750.00 for tuition, fees and testing for Fr. James Hoder. He will be attending the Fall 1990 program at CCFM.

Thanks again. I'm sure things are starting to get even busier there. Hope all is going well.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Merleanne".

Merleanne Hiett  
Secretary, Archdiocesan Sabbatical Board

cc: Rev. James Hoder

Merleanne Hiett Aug. 15, 1990

Dear Fr. Hodder,

Hope all is going well for you.  
I'm sure you must be excited  
as you prepare for your Sabbath  
you have \$375.00 left in your  
budget now that the bills all  
Notre Dame have been paid. Your  
budget allotted money for you for  
per diem travel expenses too, so  
if you'd like to save your receipts  
& send those to me, I will request  
a check for reimbursement and  
I can send that on to you wherever  
you'd like.

Please let me know if I  
can help in any other way.

Sincerely,  
Merleanne Hiett



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS  
800 NORTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 311  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610

Off: (312) 642-1837

TO: File (R. Goedert)

DATE: Aug. 23, 1990

RE: James Hoder

1. The Cardinal said that he is speaking to [REDACTED], a friend of [REDACTED], had told [REDACTED] in confidence that the local alderman informed him that there is some sort of investigation going on and it somehow involved Jim Hoder and drugs. The Cardinal wasn't quite sure what it was all about, but he asked me to contact [REDACTED] and see what information he has. The Cardinal said that I could feel free to tell [REDACTED] that [REDACTED] said I could talk to him, but the Cardinal wants me to leave out any mention of the alderman, etc. The Cardinal also suggested that I speak to [REDACTED], to see if he has any such information.

2. I called both [REDACTED] on Friday, Aug. 24. Neither was in. [REDACTED] was gone for the weekend, and [REDACTED] was on vacation. I left messages for both to call me upon their return. [REDACTED]



Off: (312) 642-1837

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

800 NORTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 311  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610

TO: Cardinal Bernardin

FROM: Rev. Raymond Goedert 

DATE: Aug. 25, 1990

RE: James Hoder

In an effort to follow up on your inquiry concerning Hoder and the alleged drug involvement, I tried to reach both [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was out of town for the weekend and [REDACTED] is on vacation, so I struck out for the time being. I hope that by the time you return from Europe I will have some information from either or both of them.



## ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

800 NORTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 311  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610

Off: (312) 642-1837

TO: File (R. Goedert)

DATE: Aug. 27, 1990

RE: James Hoder

1. I spoke to [REDACTED] today. [REDACTED] said that he had some information that he did not want any one else to know about. He told [REDACTED] that the State's Attorney has been investigating Hoder. They evidently have it on tape. Hoder is supposedly trying to make a buy with someone whom he doesn't realize is an undercover agent. Hoder drives around in two Mercedes cars and has phones in them and does his buying and selling that way. The police are curious and are going to nail him. The local police commander in the Deering District knows what's going on. It could be that they are reluctant to move in on him because he is a priest and they might think that the diocese would try to cover for him, etc. I assured [REDACTED] that if Hoder is guilty of dealing in drugs that I would be the last one to try to cover for him. He should be nailed and I would certainly do nothing to stand in the way of the police doing their job. On the other hand, I would hope that the publicity would be kept to a minimum, if in fact, there is any truth to these charges, as it would be devastating for the Church. [REDACTED] said that someone tipped the police about Hoder selling drugs. [REDACTED] further added that people in that area are really down on both Millard O'Keefe and Jim Hoder, primarily because they have been trying to minister to the Spanish, etc.
2. [REDACTED] said that he is having lunch with [REDACTED] again this Wednesday and will try to get additional information. [REDACTED] will call me on Thursday to let me know what he comes up with. [REDACTED]
3. After talking to [REDACTED] I called St. David's to speak to Sr. Leonette. She had called me about another matter and I simply returned her call but then in the course of our conversation I asked her if she has seen Jim Hoder recently. Sister said that Jim comes there on weekends. He is supposed on his sabbatical at Notre Dame, but he claims he has no place to go and so on weekends he returns to St. David. He still has his room there and the room is an absolute mess. It is chaos, with wine bottles, dirty clothes, all sorts of books on alcohol addiction, etc. I asked her if he also was on drugs, but she said she had no knowledge of that. She did say that he was out late Saturday night and didn't return until about 2 A.M. on Sunday. She saw him around 10 or 10:30 on Sunday at Church and he smelled of alcohol. She said that he is a very sick person.



**ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO**

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

800 NORTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 311  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610

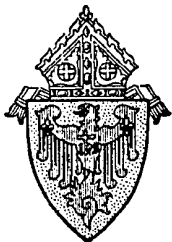
Off: (312) 642-1837

TO: File (R. Goedert)

DATE: Aug. 30, 1990

RE: James Hoder

I called Joe Grembla [REDACTED] I asked Joe if he had heard anything at all about Hoder in connection with drugs. Joe said that all he recalls is Millard O'Keefe mentioning something to him about Jim having a personal problem, that he is unkempt in appearance, not dependable, irresponsible, and has strange magazines in his room. Joe seems to recall Millard saying something about Jim taking drugs, but he never heard anything at all about Jim actually dealing in drugs.



Off: (312) 642-1837

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS  
800 NORTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 311  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610

TO: File (R. Goedert)

DATE: Nov. 10, 1990

RE: James Hoder

1. I called [REDACTED] to see if there were any new developments. He said that he has heard nothing. He met with [REDACTED] three weeks or so ago and nothing was mentioned about it. [REDACTED] is reluctant to push too hard on it. I agreed and just said that "let's let it ride" and if he does hear anything he will get back to me.

*11/10/90- Card asked if I would try my connection.*

ST. DAVID CHURCH

3216 S. UNION AVE.  
CHICAGO, IL. 60616  
(312) 842-4900

12-14-90

Dear Fr. Wayne,

As of today I have finished the program at Notre Dame. Two weeks ago I talked with the secretary at Mundelein about using the remaining money for this trip to Medjugorje. I have already paid the total amount of \$423.00 to Windsor Travel. I thought this was an excellent bargain, as well as a nice pilgrimage. About 150 priests are going from across the country. If I could use the remaining money from the \$500.00, it would help. Thank you for all your work. Yours truly

Jim Stoebe



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

800 NORTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 311  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610

Off: (312) 642-1837

December 17, 1990



Dear [REDACTED],


I wonder if you can do a little undercover work for me. One of our priests, Rev. James Hoder, has experienced a lot of personal difficulties [REDACTED]

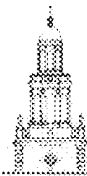
The Cardinal received word through a confidential source last August that the police were supposedly keeping Fr. Hoder under surveillance. He was suspected of dealing in drugs, operating out of a Mercedes he owned, using his car phone to buy and sell. The Cardinal was informed that the State's Attorney Office is also involved. The informant was quite insistent that this information and his identity remain confidential, but we have no reason to question his integrity.

Would you have any way of checking this out without causing any problem either for the informant or the police operation, if in fact, there is one under way? I can assure you that if Fr. Hoder is dealing in drugs, the Archdiocese will give its complete cooperation to the civil authorities involved in any way requested.

With thanks for your help, [REDACTED], I remain

Sincerely yours,

  
Rev. Raymond Goedert



Center for Development in Ministry

YMH

called Dean Semmes

12/20.

He will contact Father

Woods

1) What about other

3 weeks?? ~~Here??~~

2) Can't pay for travel.

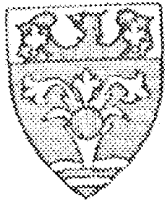
Page 2

PRIESTS ON SABBATICAL

Returning in 1991

<u>Name</u>	<u>Begin</u>	<u>End</u>	<u>Return</u>
[REDACTED]			
JAMES HODER '75	#705	08/15/90	02/15/91
			New Assignment DON/RAY G.
[REDACTED]			

AOC 014773



UNIVERSITY of SAINT MARY OF THE LAKE  
CENTER FOR DEVELOPMENT IN MINISTRY

January 25, 1991

Dear Fr. Hoder,

I am enclosing a check for \$375.00 made payable to you. This is the remainder of your \$5,000.00 sabbatical budget and is reimbursement for your per diem expenses and part of the Medjugorje trip.

I know your sabbatical is just coming to an end. I hope it was everything you wanted it to be. I have heard many good things about the Notre Dame Program. I'm sure the trip to Medjugorje would be very interesting too.

Please let me know if there is anything else I can do for you. I wish you all the best in this New Year and with your new assignment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Merleanne Hiett".

Merleanne Hiett



Off: (312) 642-1837

## ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

800 NORTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 311  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610

TO: Rev. Edward Fialkowski

FROM: Rev. Raymond Goedert

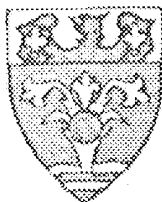
DATE: Feb. 8, 1991

RE: James Hoder

1. I received a call from Joe Grembla, the Dean, this morning. He had been speaking to Millard O'Keefe, the pastor at St. David's. Millard heard through someone that either I or someone else in authority mentioned that Jim Hoder was going to return to St. David's. This was very upsetting to Millard and he pleaded with Joe to intervene, so that this would not happen.

2. I told Joe that I knew absolutely nothing about this and I certainly had never made any commitment to Jim or anyone else about him returning to St. David. On the contrary, I would strongly advise that this not be done. Where he should go, I do not know, but I see absolutely no reason for him to return to St. David. Millard has enough difficulties of his own without asking him to put up with Jim and all of his problems, particularly since Jim has already been there over the five-year term.

3. I told Joe that I would be in touch with you. I would appreciate it if you would give me a call and let me know where things stand as far as Jim is concerned. I presume he is finished with his sabbatical and I just wondered whether he is on open listing. Whatever information you can give me will be appreciated and I will forward it to both Millard and Joe.



UNIVERSITY OF SAINT MARY OF THE LAKE  
CENTER FOR DEVELOPMENT IN MINISTRY

February 15, 1991

Rev. James Hoder  
St. David  
3210 S. Union  
Chicago, IL 60611

Dear Jim,

Since you have returned from your sabbatical it would be helpful if you would share your comments about lodging, program, professors, etc.

The information that you could provide on the enclosed evaluation form will be shown to others who might be interested in the same site.

I would also like to refer future sabbatical candidates to contact you. They might get in touch with you by phone with questions that are not answered on the evaluation form.

I hope your sabbatical experience lived up to your expectations and that you were satisfied.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Wayne Prist".

Wayne Prist

N.B. Please return your completed evaluation within 3-4 weeks to my office at CDM, Attn: Merleanne Hiett.



Center for Development in Ministry

2-18-91

Dear Fr. Hoder,

I hope your sabbatical  
was everything you  
wanted it to be.

I wish you much  
happiness in your new  
assignment.

Sincerely,  
Merleanne



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

800 NORTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 311

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610

Off: (312) 642-1837

TO: File (R. Goedert)

DATE: March 15, 1991

RE: James Hoder

1. I met with the Personnel Board. They asked about the status of Jim Hoder's case. I explained the situation to them and mentioned that Ken and I were talking about it. I felt that it was important for Jim to get re-assigned with the regular June changes.

2. However, in the light of Millard O'Keefe's present physical condition, I suggested that it might be better to leave Jim at St. David's, but make it quite clear that it is only going to be a temporary thing and that we expect him to be in the regular June change process.

3. I will have to check with Al Ciciora and Jerry Rodell to see what the situation is with Millard.



**THE DIOCESAN PRIESTS' PERSONNEL BOARD  
OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO**

25 WEST CHICAGO AVENUE - SUITE 500  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610

(312) 944-6776

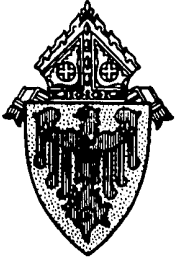
TO: Rev. Raymond Goedert/Vicar for Priests  
FROM: Rev. Edward R. Fialkowski/Priests' Personnel Board  
DATE: Tuesday, April 2, 1991  
RE: Rev. James Hoder

Ray,

The enclosed is a draft of the letter we will be sending to Jim Hoder in order to get him moving into his next assignment.

Any thoughts you may have regarding this, please let me know so we can get this out as soon as possible.

*Ee*



**THE DIOCESAN PRIESTS' PERSONNEL BOARD  
OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO**

25 WEST CHICAGO AVENUE - SUITE 500  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610

COPY

(312) 944-6776

April 2, 1991

*file*  
*Hoder*

Dear Jim,

The Board wishes to thank you for assisting Millard O'Keefe at St. David Parish during this time of his illness. Since this parish is not open for an associate pastor, we are enclosing the list of the parishes involved in the June Change Process and we ask you to seek placement at a parish that could best use your talents from this "A" or "B" listing.

Sincerely,

Rev. Edward R. Fialkowski  
Recording Secretary

ERF/ljb

Rev. James Hoder  
St. David Parish  
3210 S. Union  
Chicago, IL 60616

Enc.

AOC 014780



Off: (312) 642-1837

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS  
800 NORTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 311  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610

TO: Rev. Edward Fialkowski

FROM: Rev. Raymond Goedert *RG*

DATE: May 6, 1991

RE: James Hoder

1. At our meeting on Friday, May 3, one of the cases we discussed was Jim Hoder. I had mentioned to you that I saw no reason why Jim could not be re-assigned in the usual manner.



ST. DAVID CHURCH

3210 S. UNION AVE.  
CHICAGO, IL 60616  
(312) 842-4900

5-14-91

Dear Ken,

This is just a note letting  
you know what is happening  
with me.

My sabbatical finished officially  
February 15, 1991. Since then I  
have been helping out at St. David's.  
at first there was a good possibility  
that I might stay there full time  
if Fr. Millard O'Keefe were to go  
for treatment of some kind.

I presume there is not going  
to happen. In any case, I will  
continue to help Millard out  
until June. Then I have a chance.

to do a part of my sabbatical  
which I couldn't do in January,  
due to my father's illness &  
death. This is to travel by car  
in Mexico for 2-3 weeks. I feel  
this would enrich my service  
to the Mexican community.

After this trip, I would still  
like to continue in Spanish work.

One other item: - Mullard hasn't  
paid any money to pay me, except  
£2500 per Sunday mass. ~~After~~  
since February. If I could have  
some money from somewhere, I  
would appreciate it. Thank you  
for your in many ways thankless  
work! God bless you Ken!

Jim. Hodge

Scanned by

SEP 25 2009

Archives & Records



Off: (312) 642-1837

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS


800 NORTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 311  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610

TO: Rev. Kenneth Velo

FROM: Rev. Raymond Goedert 

DATE: May 25, 1991

RE: James Hoder

1. In your memo of 5/23/91, you attached a copy of Jim Hoder's letter of May 14 in which he inquires about salary, etc. You asked whether there is anything you should be doing.
2. With regard to Jim's future assignment, I had already sent a memo to Ed Fialkowski on May 6 suggesting that Jim follow the usual procedure for re-assignment. 
3. With regard to Jim's request for a salary for the last three months that he has been at St. David, I'm not sure just what ought to be done. I do have a few questions -- namely,
  - A. I think Jim was on one of those special sabbaticals. Who was paying him during this period, and would they be willing to continue for these three months?
  - B. Did Jim acutally work full-time at St. David, or was he just filling in when needed?
  - C. Does Millard O'Keefe think Jim should be given a full-time salary from some source or other?
4. If the answer to #C is in the affirmative, then I would suggest that Millard give Jim whatever he has coming, and then if he will let me know the amount, I will ask PRMAA to reimburse the parish.



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

800 NORTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 311  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610

Off: (312) 642-1837

TO: File (R. Goedert)

DATE: June 7, 1991

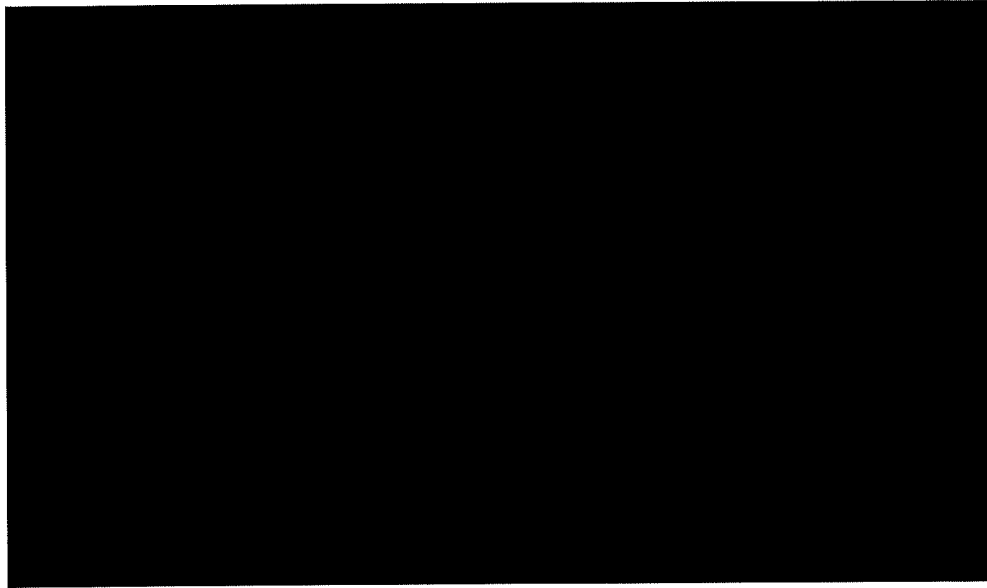
RE: James Hoder

1. George Kane called in his capacity as chairman of the Personnel Board. He was getting ready to go to the meeting and wanted to know what I thought about Jim Hoder going to St. Joseph's in Wheeling. After reflecting a moment, I told George that I would be opposed to such an appointment. I mentioned in confidence to George that my opposition would be based on some factors pertaining to Jim and other factors pertaining to a situation that has nothing to do with Jim and which could create problems down the line. George accepted that and said he would so notify the Board.

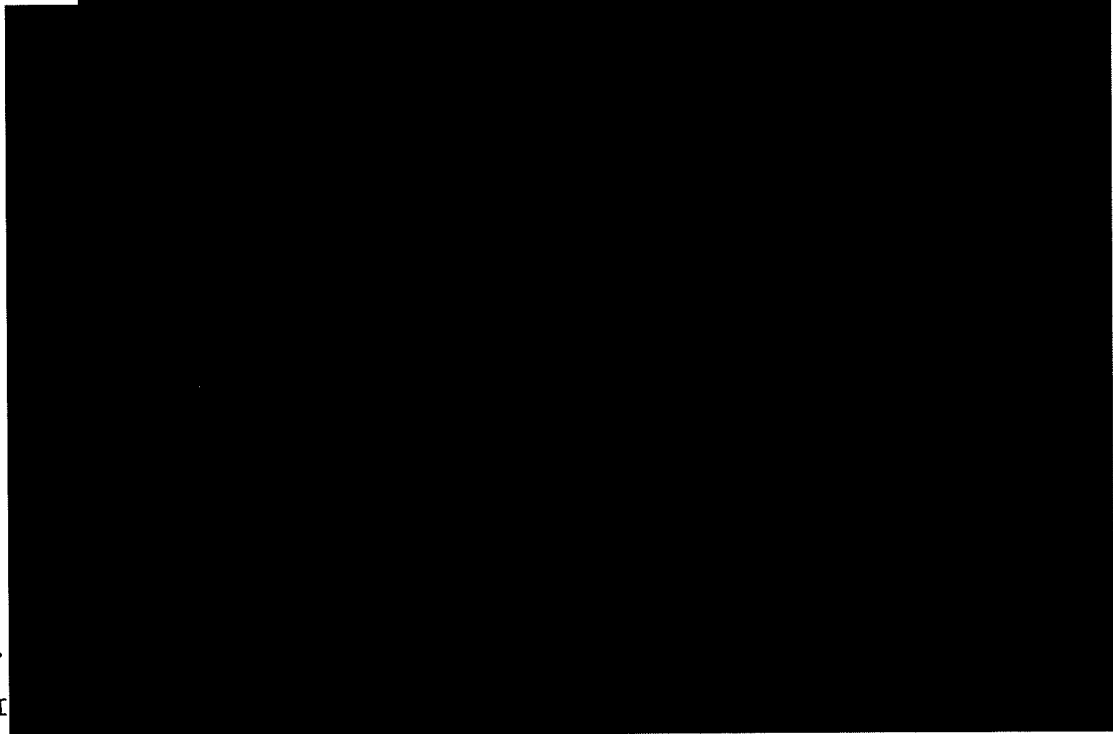
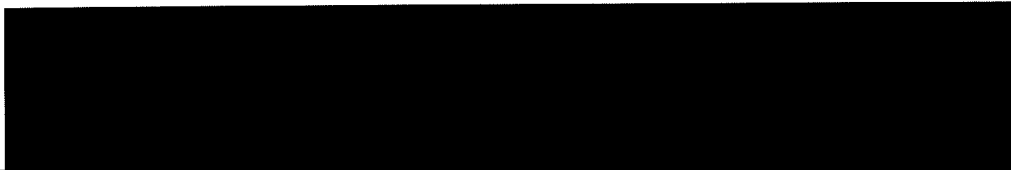
2. We then discussed where Jim could go. I told George that my own feeling was that we should not deal with him as a add-on, paying half the salary, etc. I think it is time that we begin to deal more forthrightly with those whom the Board considers to be difficult or impossible to place. If the Board can not find a pastor willing to take Jim, and if Jim himself cannot find a pastor willing to accept him and pay the full salary, then I think we ought to deal with Jim on the issue of whether or not he should remain in the active ministry. George agreed.

# Excerpt: Diocesan Priests' Placement Board, 8/2/1991

## B. Priests:



8. James Hoder '75: (KV)  
ACTION:



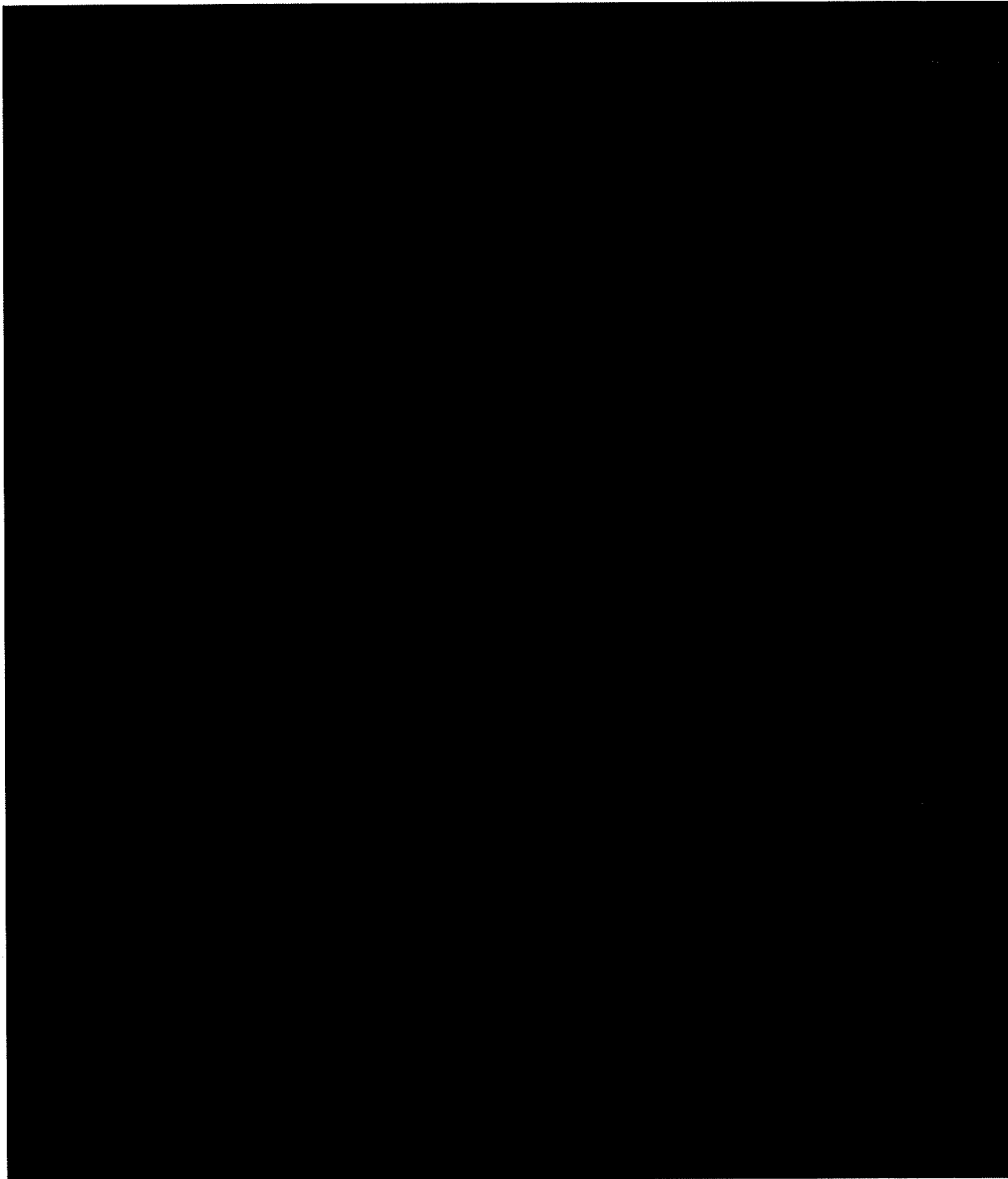
VI.

VII.

VIII



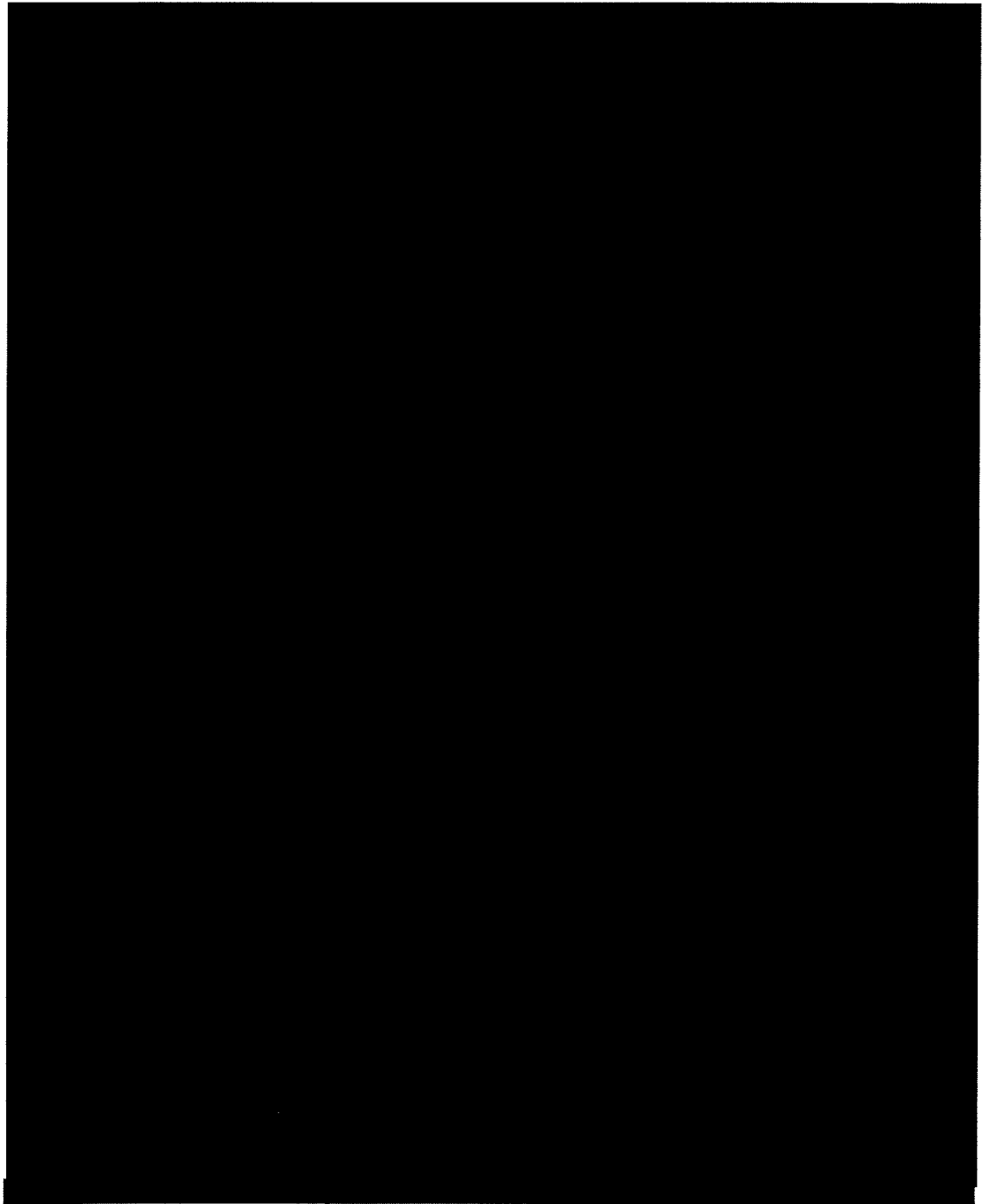
B. Priests:



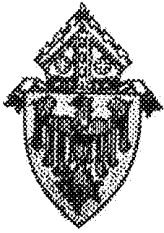
8. James Hoder '75: Casimir Szatkowski '50 [Pastor] of St. Joseph/Chicago contacted the Board saying he could use a Spanish speaking associate and he is interested in Jim.

MOTION: 7 - 0 The Board recommends that Jim Hoder be assigned as Associate Pastor to St. Joseph/Chicago. Ken Velo will be his contact person.

Page 7 of 9



11. James Hoder '75: The Cardinal has appointed Jim (and he has accepted) as an Associate Pastor to Casimir Szatkowski '50 [Pastor] St. Joseph/Chicago.



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

Office of the Archbishop

August 23, 1991

Dear Father Hoder:

In light of the recommendation of the Diocesan Priests' Personnel Board, I hereby appoint you as Associate Pastor to the Reverend Casimir Szatkowski, Pastor of Saint Joseph Church (Hermitage Avenue). This appointment is effective immediately. Please speak with Father Szatkowski regarding the necessary arrangements.

Jim, I wish you well in this new assignment. It is my hope that working with the priests of Saint Joseph, the people will be well served by your care and efforts.

With cordial good wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

*Joseph Card. Bernardin*  
Archbishop of Chicago

*Kenneth Velez*  
Ecclesiastical Notary

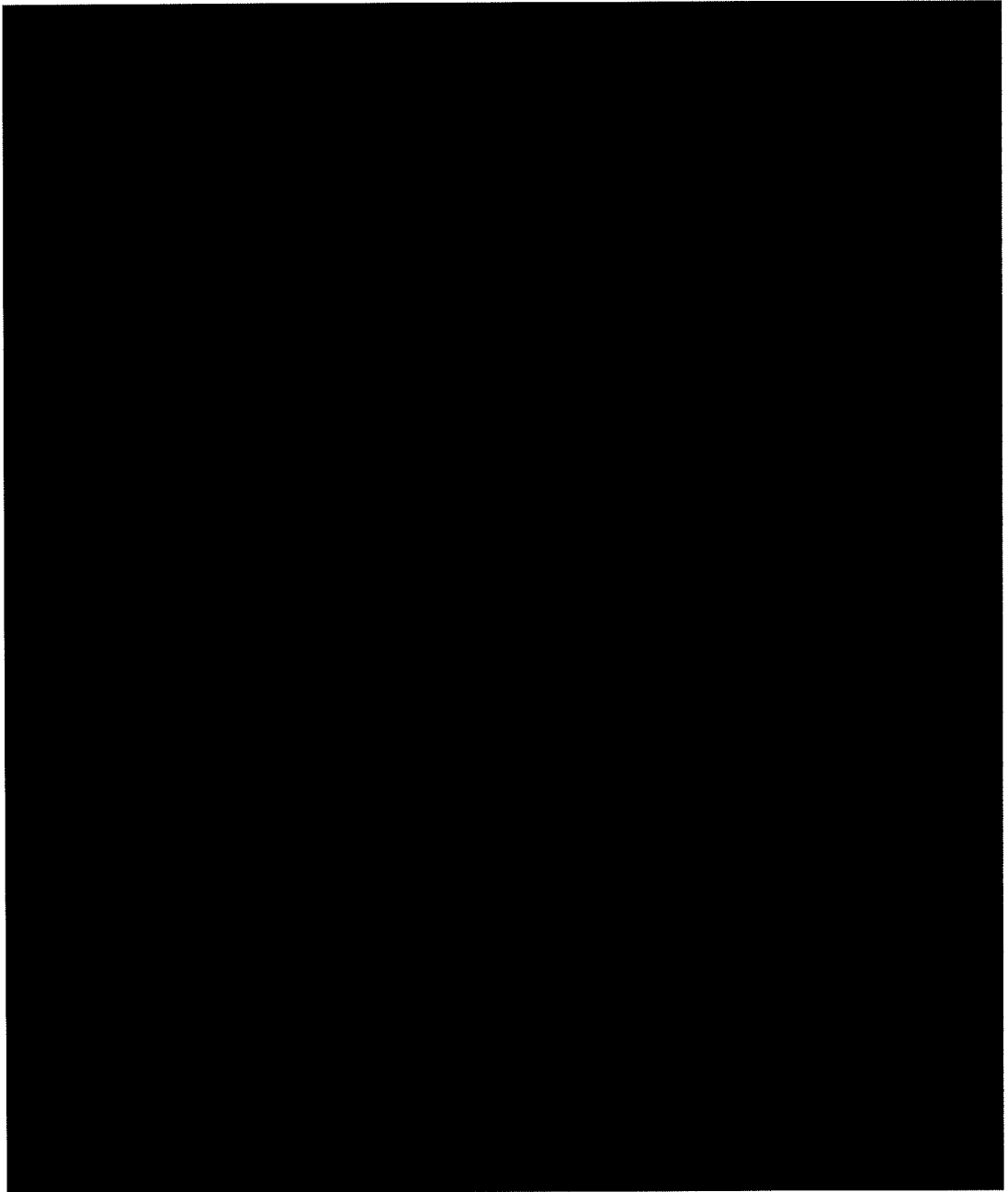
Reverend James A. Hoder  
Saint Joseph Parish  
4821 S. Hermitage  
Chicago, Illinois 60609

cc: Reverend Casimir M. Szatkowski  
Diocesan Priests' Personnel Board

bc: Bishop-Elect Raymond Goedart  
Reverend Millard O'Keefe

Excerpt: Diocesan Priests' Placement Board, 8/30/1991

REPORTS: (08/30/91)



6. Cardinal's Appointments:

- a) James Hoder '75: The Cardinal has appointed Jim to St. Joseph/Hermitage Ave. as an Associate Pastor effective immediately.



6. Cardinal's Appointments:

- a) James Hoder '75: The Cardinal has appointed Jim to St. Joseph/Hermitage Ave. as an Associate Pastor effective immediately.



IV.

V.





Off: (312) 642-1837

## ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS  
800 NORTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 311  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610

TO: File (P. O'Malley)

DATE: Nov. 11, 1991

RE: James Hoder

1. The Cardinal called Jim Hoder in. Also present, were Andy and Bishop Goedert. He presented the ruling of the Commission. Jim Hoder was surprisingly strong in his defense. He told us that he had done everything that he had been asked to do, when he admitted to this relationship with [REDACTED] We agreed. [REDACTED]

2. Jim went into describing his own physical background, his break down in 1983 and how his focus was very divided for four years after that. He mentioned that he has been taking care of his father, has been his main emotional support. Jim also mentioned that he had let the Lord into his life in 1974 and had been Charismatic since that time. He did not know where [REDACTED] presently lived.

3. Jim argued his position very well. His main defense was that he had done everything that he had been asked to do. The Cardinal pursued the point and said he would have to be removed from the parish temporarily perhaps, depending [REDACTED]

4. Jim acquiesced nicely and said "Fine, then I'll do it". We'll take care of his salary. The meeting came to a close on an upbeat note.

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of the Archbishop



Post Office Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690

(312) 751-8230  
Fax (312) 337-6379

November 14, 1991

Dear Jim:

I appreciate the fact that our meeting the other day was very difficult for you. I know that it was very difficult for me also. I appreciate your cooperation and your move to Mercy Hospital.

For the time being you will be on an administrative leave.

[REDACTED]

Jim, be assured that you have a special place in my daily prayers and that I will do everything possible to help you.

With cordial good wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

*Joseph Carl Bernardini*  
Archbishop of Chicago

*Robert L. Kealey*  
Chancellor

The Reverend James A. Hoder  
c/o Sr. [REDACTED] R.S.M.  
President  
Mercy Hospital and Medical Center  
Stevenson Expressway at King Drive  
Chicago, Illinois 60616

bc: Rev. Patrick J. O'Malley  
Rev. Kenneth Velo

AOC 014793

January 12, 1992

## INDIVIDUAL SPECIFIC PROTOCOL

For James Hoder

I have reviewed, understand, and agree to all requirements of The Residence Protocol, and the following items:

- 1) Detailed list of assets and list of phone bills to be given to the Archdiocese Vicar for Priests or designate.
- 2) Restricted to the Residence for one week, must improve hygiene, behave socially appropriate, provide list of own expectations of ministry.
- 3) Cannot leave boundaries of Archdiocese /Lake Couty, Cook Couty/.
- 4) Unaccompanied out-of-house privileges include the following:  
[REDACTED]  
Parish Pray Group - Thursday  
[REDACTED]  
Social events/lunches, dinners, movies, shopping, etc./ - every day
- 5) No out-of-residence passes longer than six hours.
- 6) Only approved family members can be responsible parties for out-of-residence trips.
- 7) Attendance at all activities and the specific names, addresses, time and telephone numbers regarding resident's must be entered on the individual itinerary.
- 8) It is resident's responsibility to be reachable at any given time. Resident is accountable for his own time and is required to support his attendance at social events with physical proof/i.e., movie ticket, receipt from restaurant, etc./If such proof cannot be provided, resident is required to call the residence staff member from the place of destination. Resident out of residence is to call in every two hours. The telephone number from where the call has been made will be verified by a staff member. Unlisted, unpublished and mobile telephone numbers will not suffice. A 72 hour restriction to the Residence will result if resident not reachable after three attempts. Unsuccessful attempts to reach resident at the given number will be followed by writing a memorandum. Such a memorandum will be kept on file [REDACTED]. In case of repeated violations, copies of original memoranda will be forwarded to the Archdiocese Vicar for Priests [REDACTED]
- 9) - Any contraband materials/i.e., alcohol, VCR's, pornography/can be confiscated.
  - Car keys to be checked in at the Community Room.
  - Visitation by previously approved visitors can only occur at room 404, all visitors must sign in and out at the Community Room.

10) No one under the age of eighteen is permitted to be at the Residence unless prior approval has been received from the Residence Executive Director [REDACTED], and the Archdiocese Vicar for Priests or designate. Meetings with minors, in and out of the Residence, can take place only in the presence of an approved companion.

11) Any deviation and/or non-compliance with requirements of the Individual Specific Protocol will be addressed by the Residence Executive Director and/or designate and may be grounds for modification of currently existing unaccompanied out-of-house privileges. Such modification will be collectively determined by the Archdiocese Vicar for Priests and/or designate/other referring authority in conjunction with the Residence Executive Director [REDACTED]. In case of emergency, any staff member can modify the Individual Specific Protocol until an administrative decision can be made by the Residence Executive Director and/or designate.

12) In order to change the Individual Specific Protocol and/or items within the protocol, prior approval must be received from [REDACTED] in conjunction with the Residence Executive Director.

This is a working document which can be changed, altered, or superceded where there is an indicated need to do so.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

*James Hoder*

Printed Name: James HODER

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1-25-92

Executive Director: \_\_\_\_\_

A copy of this protocol will be [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] sent to the Archdiocese Vicar for Priests.



Off: (312) 642-1837

## ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

800 NORTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 311  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610

TO: File (P. O'Malley)

DATE: March 3, 1992

RE: James Hoder

1. Fr. Casey Czatkowski, Jim Hoder's pastor, called today to ask what is happening with Jim. Can he count on him for the future? I told him that I would be back to him within two days.

2. He also told me that he has been paying Jim's salary for the past three months, ever since he left the parish. I checked my records and found out that we have been paying him as well. I told Casey not to send any more money to James Hoder and that he would be reimbursed for what he has already sent him. Hoder has been receiving two checks and has said absolutely nothing about it. This is my fault for not checking with Casey earlier, but I'm also a bit upset with Jim not calling it to my attention. I will contact Hoder and tell him that he has to pay back that salary to the parish over the last three months. He shall have to send the check through me. If he does not, then his next three months will be cut off and I shall take that money and repay the parish myself.

MARCH 6, 1992

**S U P P L E M E N T**  
**T O**  
**INDIVIDUAL SPECIFIC PROTOCOL**  
**FOR JAMES HODER**

I have reviewed, understand and agree to all requirements of The Residence Protocol, and the following items:

- 1) Unaccompanied out-of-house privileges include the following:

[REDACTED]  
Parish Pray Group - Thursday afternoon

[REDACTED]  
Sunday and Monday - 8 hours free, Tuesday thru Saturday - 6 hours free/ visits with family, classmates and friends, priests of St. Joseph and other rectories, Spiritual Director-St. Thomas More Church, going to restaurants, movies, theatres, health club/.  
Army Mass - 1st weekend of month.

- 2) The items 1,2,4,5 from previous Individual Specific Protocol /dated Jan.12,1992/ do not apply any more.
- 3) The items 3/in order to leave boundaries of Archdiocese resident must receive permission from the Vicar/, 6 - 12 still apply to the resident.

Signed:

James Hoder

Printed Name:

JAMES HODER

Date:

3-6-92

Executive Director

[REDACTED]



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

800 NORTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 311

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610

Off: (312) 642-1837

March 6, 1992

Rev. James Hoder



Dear Jim,

As per our conversation on Tuesday, March 3, I expect you to write a check to St. Joseph Parish, 4821 South Hermitage, for three months salary. Do not send it directly to St. Joseph's, but rather directly to my office. I will send it on to Casey Szatkowski.

Fraternally yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pat".

Rev. Patrick O'Malley



Off: (312) 642-1837

## ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

800 NORTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 311

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610

TO: File (P. O'Malley)

DATE: March 6, 1992

RE: Rev. James Hoder

1. I spoke to Casey Szatkowski, the pastor of St. Joseph's parish, where Jim served as an Associate before being removed in November. I informed Casey that Jim would not be going back to the parish. Jim is also sending me a check for those three months' salary which will be reimbursed to the parish of St. Joseph's.

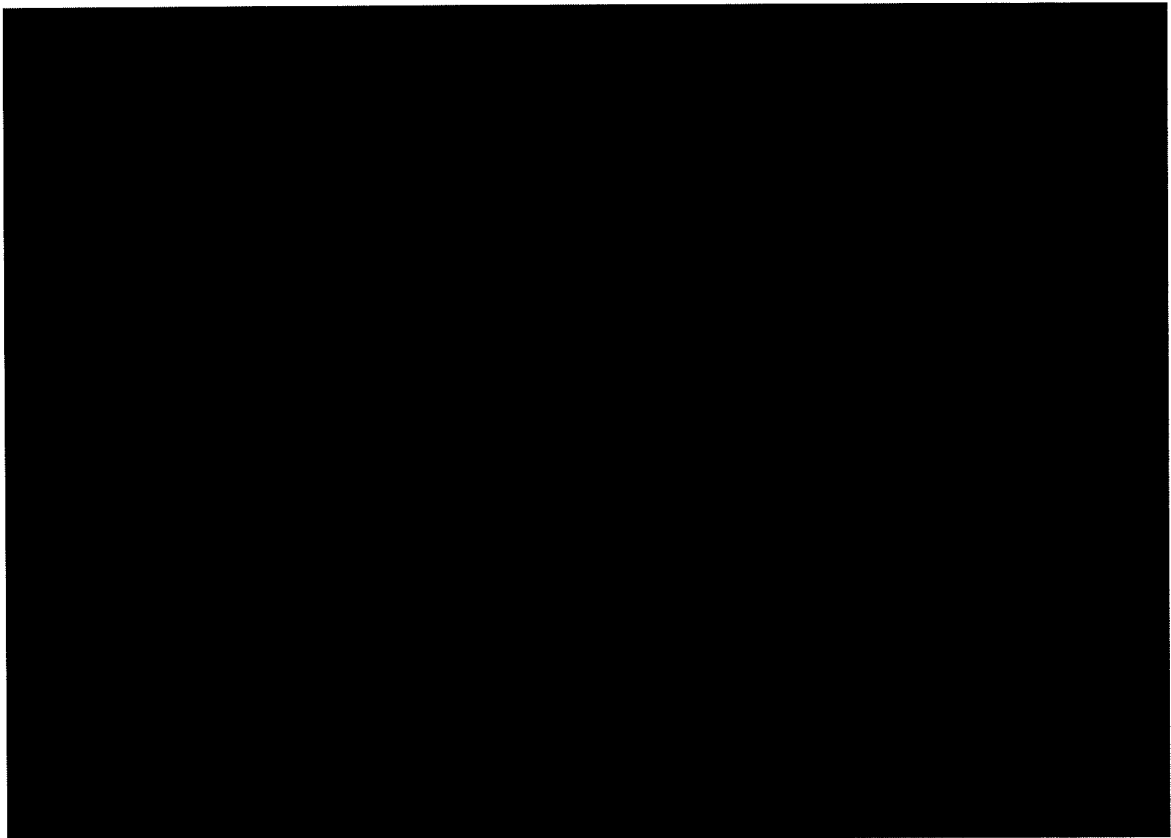
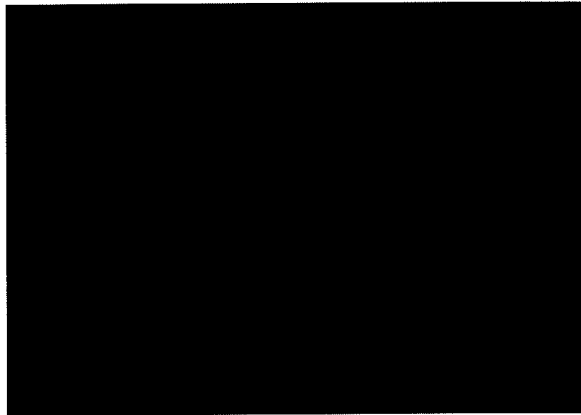
2. Casey mentioned that they needed Spanish-speaking priests there if at all possible. I told him I would be meeting with the Personnel Board this afternoon and would pass on that information to them. He thanked me at that time and we signed off.

F. Vicar for Priests



2. James Hoder '75

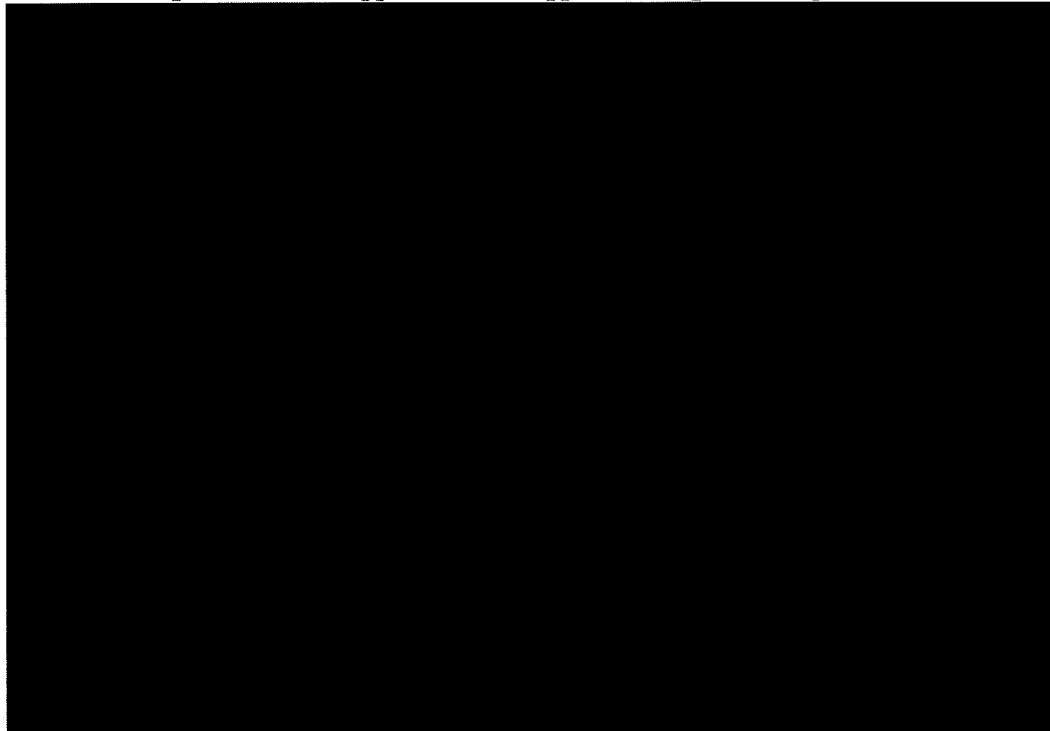
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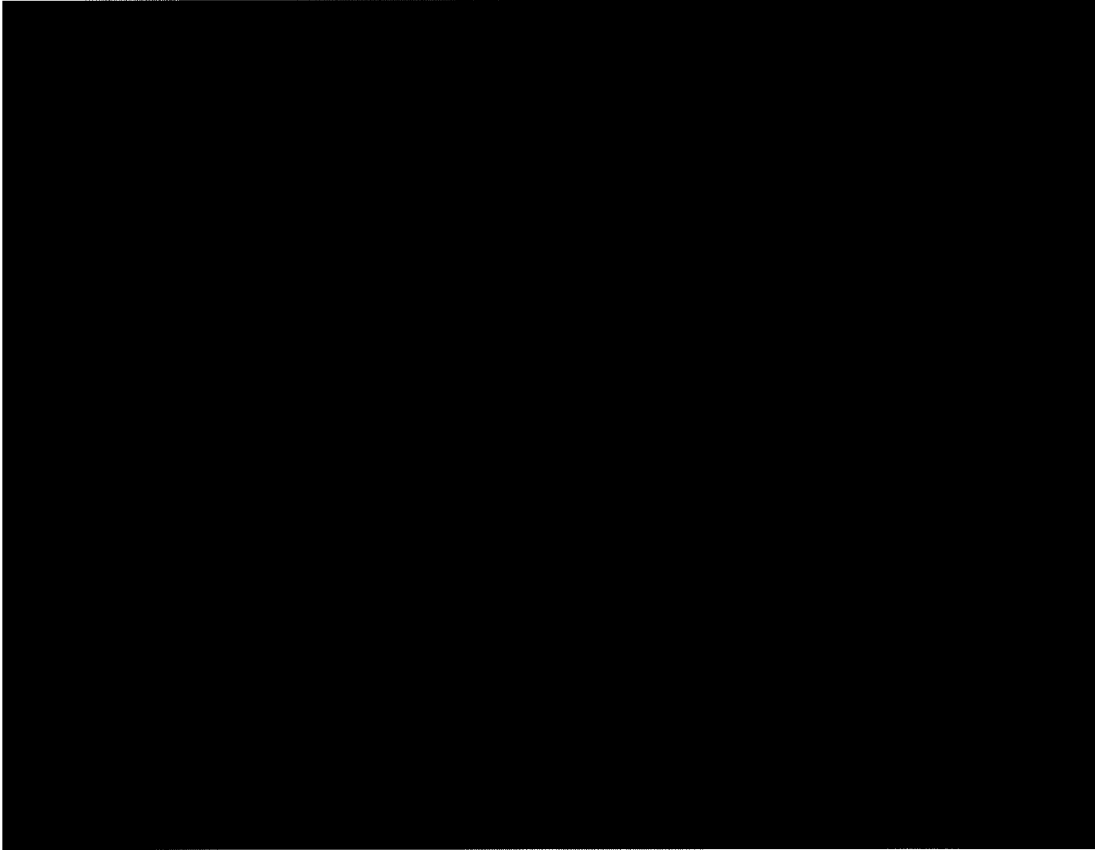




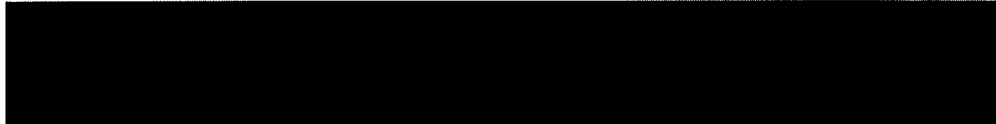
5. St. Joseph/Hermitage: Richard Zborowski '78 [Associate] is involved in the June '92 Associate Change Process, and James Hoder '75 will not be returning to the parish.  
MOTION: 6 - 0 That St. Joseph/Hermitage be placed on the "A" open Associate listing.

This parish will appear on a supplementary mailing list.





F. Patrick O'Malley [Vicar for Priests]:




2. James Hoder '75: Jim will not be returning to St. Joseph's on Hermitage. He is still a client of Pat O'Malley.



3-9-92

Dear Pat,

Once again I apologize for my taking  
of a second salary. Enclosed is a check for  
\$3963.00 - 3 months salary from St Joseph.

This is a very hard time for me,  
but I still want to be a priest. 



I remember

you every day in a special way at Mass.

With the present problems, I know

that any and all prayers are welcome.

Yours truly  
Jim Hoder



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS  
800 NORTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 311  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610

Off: (312) 642-1837

March 17, 1992

Rev. Casimir Szatkowski  
St. Joseph Parish  
4821 South Hermitage  
Chicago, Illinois 60609

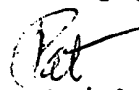
Dear Casey,

Enclosed you will find the amount for the three months' salary that you paid Jim Hoder. Through my mistake, he was accepting this money from you when he should have been receiving it from us. I hope we didn't put you to too much inconvenience on this.


I mentioned your request for an associate when I was before the Personnel Board on last Friday, especially that the priest who would come there might be able to speak Spanish. I hope that the process of getting a new associate will be a smooth one for you.

Again, I apologize for this mix-up. If there are any questions, don't hesitate to give me a call. Have a good Lent and a good Easter.

Faternally yours,

  
Rev. Patrick O'Malley  
Vicar for Priests

23-1  
1020

 **HINSDALE FEDERAL BANK**  
for savings Hinsdale, Illinois


MAR - 9 1992

Pay in dollars

HINSDALE FEDERAL \$3,963.00

to the order of ST. JOSEPH R.C. CHURCH

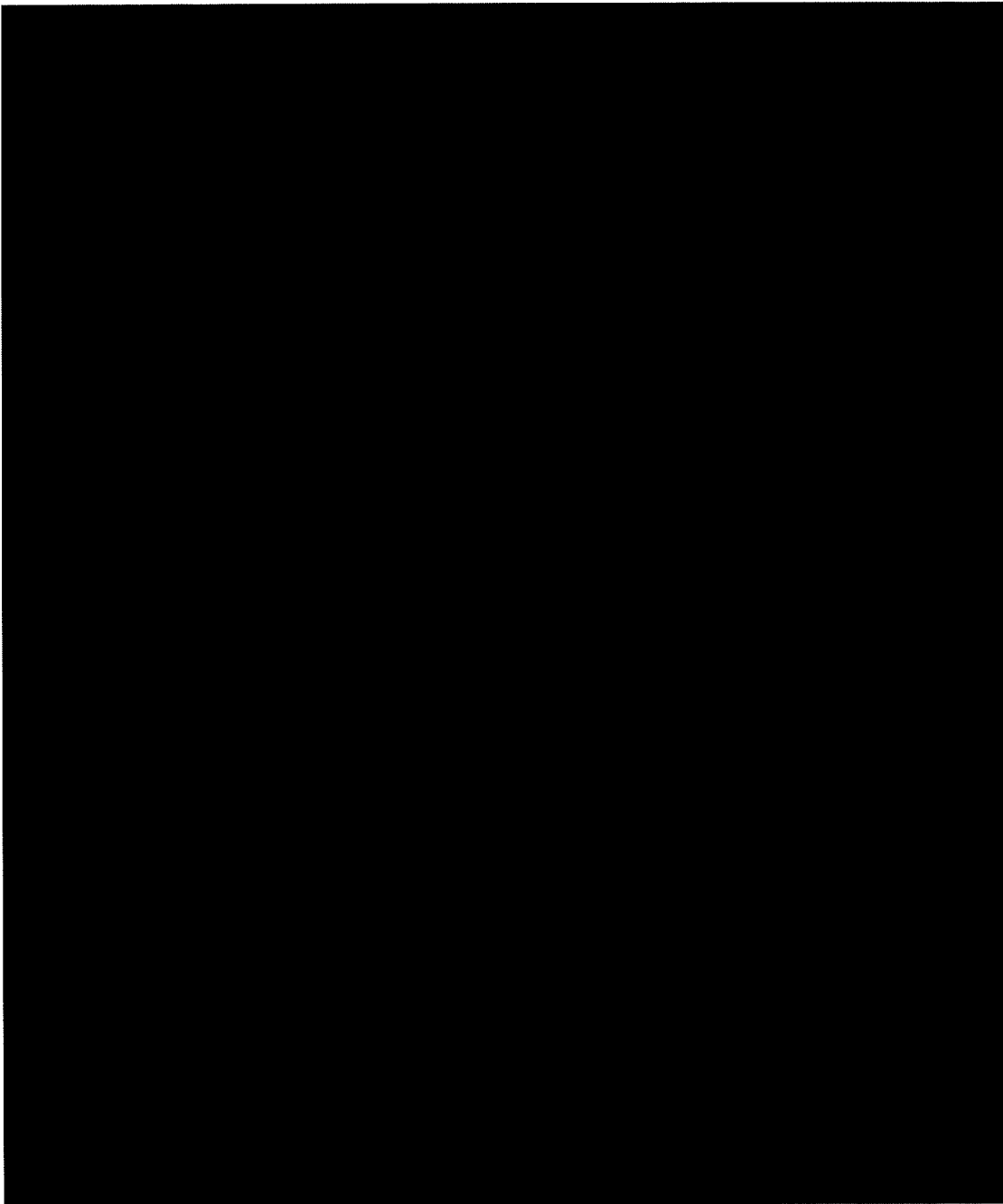
REMITTER: J. A. HODER

  
PRESIDENT

ISSUED BY AMERICAN EXPRESS TRAVEL RELATED SERVICES COMPANY, INC., Englewood, Colorado FIRST INTERSTATE BANK OF DENVER, N.A., DENVER, COLORADO

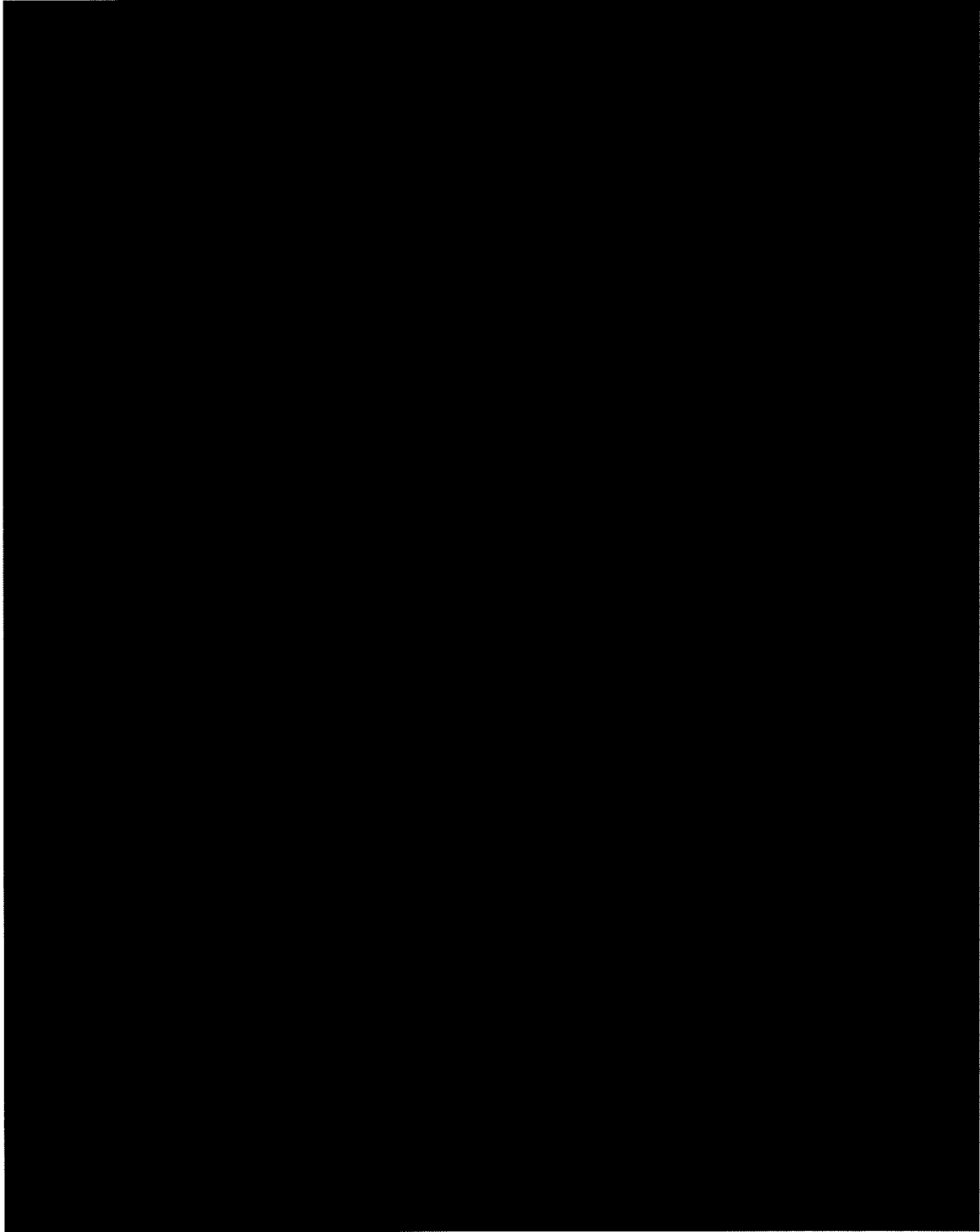
AOC 014804

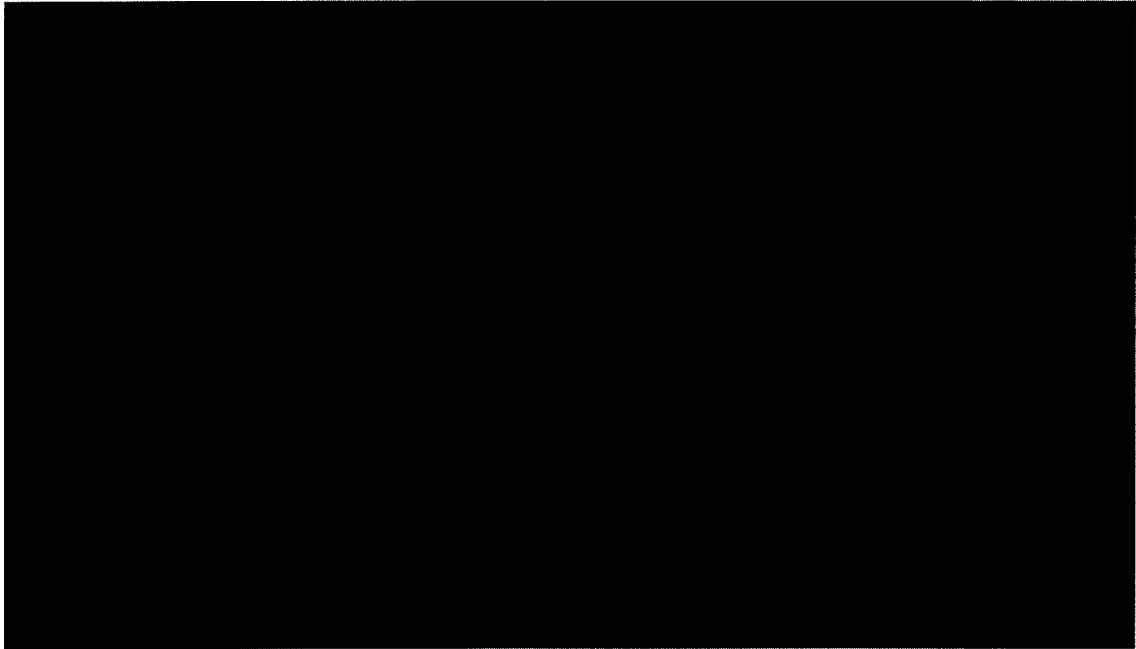
REPORTS: (03/20/92)



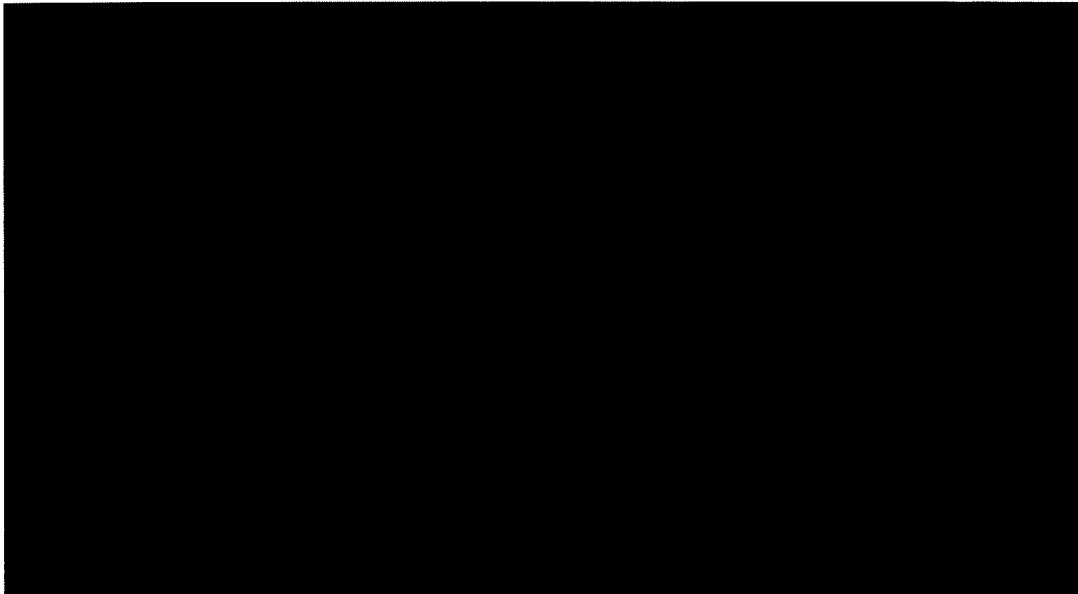
9. Casimir Szatkowski '50: Casey contacted Ed Fialkowski asking if it was necessary for him to fill out all the forms for the '92 June Associate Change process. He is afraid that a man will be assigned to the parish this year and after he retires next year, his successor may not be willing to keep the associate. Also Casey wants to be sure the Board knows that he cannot take care

of three parishes alone. He is losing both Richard Zborowski '78 and James Hoder '75 this year. He is in need of a Spanish speaking associate.





9. Casimir Szatkowski '50: Casey contacted Ed Fialkowski asking if it was necessary for him to fill out all the forms for the '92 June Associate Change process. He is afraid that a man will be assigned to the parish this year and after he retires next year, his successor may not be willing to keep the associate. Also Casey wants to be sure the Board knows that he cannot take care of three parishes alone. He is losing both Richard Zborowski '78 and James Hoder '75 this year. He is in need of a Spanish speaking associate.



PROTOCOL - JAMES HODER

For Jim Hoder  
4-4-92

1. Trinity House - 5 days (Tues. thru Sat.) 9 a.m.-3 p.m
2. [REDACTED]
3. [REDACTED]
4. Free time
  - a. Sunday & Monday - 8 hours free - Call every 2 hours
  - b. Tuesday thru Saturday evenings - restaurants, movies, plays - Call when arriving & leaving destination. Save receipts or stubs.
  - c. If health club, call from club.
  - d. Visit with classmates or friends- Leave addresses & phone numbers
  - e. Family visits - Leave addresses and phone number
  - f. Visit with priests of St. Joseph & other rectories.
5. [REDACTED]
6. Army Mass - 1st weekend of month.

Most important rule: Both resident and monitor desire to make this monitoring successful. Neither resident nor monitors want problems to develop and so, if a problem ever develops, it will be discussed in a non-punitive way -- realizing that there are circumstances that can develop that are beyond the control of the resident.

To better insure that no problems develop, resident will meet with monitor or director about his day to day schedule, making explicit the details of that day's monitoring. The monitor and resident will decide on the time and place for telephone contact, which will be recorded in daily protocol. This will help to clarify telephone contact and reduce to a minimum honest but confusing judgments on the resident's part.

I full understand the need of the Archdiocese to respond to this present concern. I wish to be a priest, and to continue my ministry as soon as possible. I also recognize that I am entitled to be treated "fairly and compassionately" and that it is necessary for me to adhere to the regulations set forth.

Penalties for non-compliance with phone monitoring without sufficient reason will be the loss of next days traveling privilege. Breaking any of the more serious rules of house or unsupervised contact with minors would have more serious consequences.

THIS IS JAMES HODER'S  
PROPOSAL REGARDING THE  
SUPPLEMENT TO HIS PROTOCOL

[REDACTED]

Dear Pat

4-4-92

There is a copy of a letter  
I am sending to the Cardinal in  
the next few days. I wanted you  
to have a copy first. See you soon

Jim Hodar

April 8, 1992

His Eminence, Joseph Cardinal Bernardin  
Archbishop of Chicago  
Post Office Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690

Dear Cardinal Bernardin,

I am writing this letter to let you know where I am at in regards to [REDACTED] where I would like to be in the future.

I have been a priest for 17 years. I have served many different communities in this period -- people from many different cultures, languages, and values. I have grown personally and professionally by these many varied parish experiences. Although there was a period of time that I was unable to work at my best, this time is behind me. I look forward to many more years of successful ministry.

[REDACTED]

When you again choose to assign me to parish ministry, I can assure you that my professional and personal conduct will be exemplary, and with the holistic care I am now receiving, I hope to continue in ministry for the remainder of my life. You can be assured that I will never again put the Archdiocese or myself in jeopardy.

Yours truly,

*Rev. James Hoder*

Rev. James Hoder

copy to Fr. Pat O'Malley

AOC 014810



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

645 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, SUITE 543

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

Off: (312) 642-1837

Fax: (312) 642-4933

Memo (POM)

To: Mr. Andrew Pollard  
PRMAA

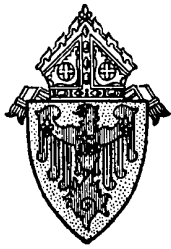
Re: Rev. James Hoder  
4/29/92

A client of mine, Fr. James Hoder, is presently receiving a salary through the Pastoral Center. [REDACTED]

In 1991, from February through July, a total of six months, Hoder was out of an assignment and received no salary at all. We have a tentative policy in place at this time which is being studied by the Cardinal. That policy states that when a man is in an unemployable state, he should not receive a full salary, but, according to Canon Law, is entitled to some stipend from the Archdiocese for living purposes. The suggestion has been made that he receive the same as a disabled priest. I am led to believe that that amounts to \$450 per month.

I cannot go back to the Pastoral Center at this time and ask them to issue a check for \$2,700. That money is coming to Hoder, however, in justice. Would it be possible for the PRMAA to issue a \$2,700 check to James Hoder for past services? Or if not directly to James Hoder, could it be issued to our office and I would turn it over to James? That way we might avoid getting involved in the whole tax business. He will, of course, pay taxes and Social Security on that amount of money.

Please check this out and be in touch with me whenever you can. I do appreciate your attention to this matter.



## ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

645 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, SUITE 543

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

Off: (312) 642-1837

Fax: (312) 642-4933

Memo to File (POM)

Re: James Hoder

4/29/92

I met with James Hoder on 4/28 and we talked about his future in ministry. I proposed the following to him:

1. That he would be allowed to help out at St. Michael the Archangel parish, where Jack Tilford is pastor. This would take place on Sunday mornings when he could say one of the Spanish Masses and perhaps the Slovak Mass, which Hoder claims he can do adequately. Jim will retain his [REDACTED], although his hours off will be re-negotiated. He is not to get involved with parishioners in any prolonged relational way.
  2. This Sunday assignment will run until the end of August, at which time we will review it and see how things have gone. I will continue to stay in touch with Jack Tilford regarding Jim Hoder.
  3. I will notify Jack of what has happened to Jim and Jim will explain it as well.
  4. Hoder will not accept any salary or remuneration from St. Michael's except for Mass stipends. Tilford is strapped at present and can use this help. I told Hoder not to contact Tilford until I have had an opportunity to speak to him.
- [REDACTED]



## ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

645 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, SUITE 543

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

Off: (312) 642-1837

Fax: (312) 642-4933

Memo to File (POM)

Re: James Hoder

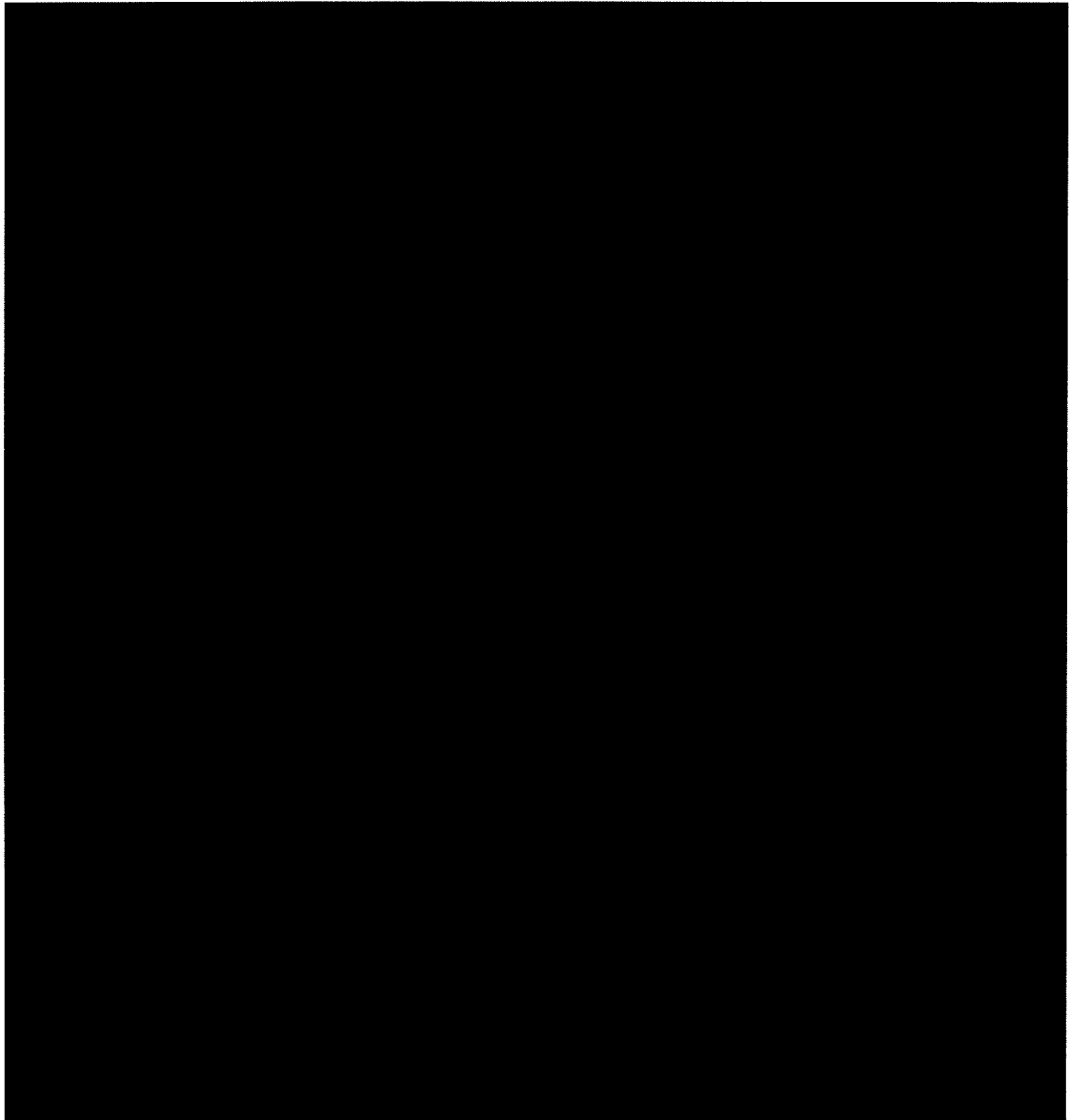
5/1/92

In speaking to James Ray today about several requests that he had made, I learned about an opening at the University of Illinois Hospital. Jim Ray told me that a certain amount of money has been budgeted for Catholic Chaplain, part-time at the hospital. He thought that this might be a good opportunity for Jim Hoder to begin some part-time work. It would include about 20 hours per week [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Jim Hoder is bi-lingual. This employment would be acceptable to Hoder and would help pick up his salary. The university hospital is an 800 bed hospital, but this position as I said would be part-time.



10. James Hoder '75: Pat is pleased with the progress Jim is making. He hopes to be able to have Jim return gradually to some kind of active ministry in the Diocese.



MAY 5, 1992

S U P P L E M E N T  
T O  
INDIVIDUAL SPECIFIC PROTOCOL  
FOR JAMES HODER

I have reviewed, understood and agree to all requirements of The Residence Protocol, and the following items:

- 1) Unaccompanied out-of-house privileges include the following:  
[REDACTED]  
Parish Pray Group -Thursday afternoon  
[REDACTED]  
Sunday and Monday - 10 hours free, Tuesday thru Saturday - 8 hours free/visits with family, classmates and friends, priests of St. Joseph and other rectories, [REDACTED] going to restaurants, movies, theatres, health club/.  
Classes at Loyola University - Tue. and Thu./May 19-June 25, 6pm-9pm/.  
Army Mass - 1st weekend of month  
Mass at St. Michael Church /in Spanish and Slovak/ - every Sunday /6.30am-9.00am/.  
Celebration of mass at Mercy Hospital /only when needed and asked to do so/ - Sunday.
- 2) Prior approval for celebration of masses /at the places other than mentioned above/ and other religious services such as weddings, baptisms, funerals etc., must be received from the Archdiocese Vicar for Priests.
- 3) The item 6 from previous Individual Specific Protocol/dated Jan.12,1992, does not apply any more.
- 4) The item 8 from ISP dated Jan.12,1992 still applies with the following change:  
the resident out of house is to call in every three hours unless other arrangement has been approved by the Executive Director or his designate.
- 5) Visitation by previously approved visitors can occur at Room 408 or at Community Room, all visitors must sign in and out at the Community Room.

AOC 014815

- 6) The following items from the Individual Specific Protocol dated Jan.12,1992 still apply to the resident:  
item 3/in order to leave boundaries of Archdiocese resident must receive permission from the Vicar/,  
items 7,8/with the changes describes above/,9/with the changes described above/,10,11,12.

Signed:

James Hoder

Printed Name:

JAMES HODER

Date:

May 5, 1992

Executive Director: \_\_\_\_\_

[REDACTED]

A copy of this protocol will be kept on file at [REDACTED]  
and a copy will be sent to the Archdiocese Vicar for Priests.



**ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO**

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

645 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, SUITE 543

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

Off: (312) 642-1837  
Fax: (312) 642-4933

May 13, 1992

Rev. James Hoder

Dear Jim,

As I promised, here is the check from the PRMAA for the amounts of \$450 for 6 months of 1991. This is a living stipend, the equivalent of what a priest receiving disability from Aetna would be getting.

I just wanted to remind you that the PRMAA has been instrumental in picking up the expenses for [REDACTED] your living over the past several months. If you are looking for a good place to put any donations that you have contemplated giving, the PRMAA is a choice spot.

I hope everything is going well. See you soon.

Faternally yours,

Rev. Patrick O'Malley  
Vicar for Priests



## ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

645 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, SUITE 543

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

Off: (312) 642-1837  
Fax: (312) 642-4933

Memo to File (POM)  
Re: James Hoder  
5/13/92

At the Senate meeting on May 11, 1992, I spoke to Jack Tilford at St. Michael's about Jim Hoder. Jack said he would accept Jim's help on Sunday morning, according to the restrictions that I would lay down. I called Jim Hoder today to tell him to contact Jack Tilford and I explained once again the parameters of our agreement.

I have a feeling that Jim Hoder actually talked to Jack Tilford before I did, but he says he did not. At any rate, the parameters are:

1. That Jim Hoder would work with Jack Tilford on Sunday morning. Jack would assign him a Mass or two. When Jack finally sets up a second Spanish Mass, perhaps Jim could take that Mass as well.
2. Jim is not to be paid by Jack Tilford but is to receive his stipend for the Mass as is customary.
3. This arrangement will be in place up until September 1st at which time we will review it.

In the meantime I asked Jim Hoder to follow up on the part-time offer at University of Illinois hospital. He said that he is making an appointment to speak to the woman in charge over at the John Paul II Center.



**ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO**

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

645 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, SUITE 543

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

Off: (312) 642-1837

Fax: (312) 642-4933

May 14, 1992

Rev. John Tilford  
St. Michael the Archangel Parish  
4821 South Damen  
Chicago, Illinois 60609

Dear Jack,

We talked on Monday, May 11, about the possibility of Jim Hoder coming to help you out. I informed Joe Bennett that he would be working with you. Jim has made some big strides in his own personal story over the past few months and we think he is ready to start to move back into some kind of priestly ministry at this time. As I said, he will be going there on Sunday morning to help you out in whatever Masses are necessary. If you later on put on another Spanish Mass, Jim possibly could help you with that.

Jim is not to stay overnight at the parish but is to go there on Sunday morning and return to his present residence on that same Sunday morning. He is not to receive any pay from you, nothing more than just the stipend that he gets for the Mass. Jim's salary is being picked up in other ways at this time.

He is not to involve himself in work other than what is immediately associated with the celebration of liturgy in your parish. I will be in contact with you periodically to see how Jim is doing. I will also be talking to him about how he is faring at your parish. If anything happens that you are uncomfortable with, don't hesitate to bring it up to Jim. And then we can all discuss it together.

I hope this works out to give you a little relief in the work at St. Michael's. I'll be in touch.

Faternally yours,

Rev. Patrick O'Malley  
Vicar for Priests



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

645 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, SUITE 543

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

Off: (312) 642-1837

Fax: (312) 642-4933

May 14, 1992

Rev. James Hoder  
[REDACTED]

Dear Jim,

As per our conversation on May 13, I am asking you to contact Jack Tilford of St. Michael the Archangel parish to do weekend work. At the start, you will have one, perhaps two, Masses on Sunday morning. According to our agreement, you will not stay overnight at the parish, but will go there on Sunday morning and return [REDACTED] when your duties are complete in the morning. [REDACTED]

You are to receive no additional compensation for your work at St. Michael's. I am instructing Jack to give you a stipend for your Mass, but no other stipend for working on Sunday. You will continue to receive a full salary from our office and that should be sufficient.

I will stay in contact with Jack Tilford to see how you are doing at St. Michael's. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

I think, Jim, that you have made a good deal of progress in the last few months and it is my hope that that progress will be demonstrated in your work over at St. Michael's. In September, when we review the situation at St. Michael's, if all has gone well, then we can look to extending your participation in ministry in some other way in the future. I hope everything goes well. Let me know what happens with that interview over at the University of Illinois Newman Center.

Faternally yours,

Rev. Patrick O'Malley  
Vicar for Priests



**ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO**

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

645 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, SUITE 543

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

Off: (312) 642-1837  
Fax: (312) 642-4933

June 14, 1992

Rev. John Tilford  
St. Michael the Archangel Parish  
4821 South Damen  
Chicago, Illinois 60609

Dear Jack,

I instructed Jim Hoder to tell you that he would not be able to help out on weekends any more. I'm very sorry about this, but with the new instructions from the Cardinal's Commission, we have to take another look at how we will restore priests to ministry after allegations of misconduct. It's a difficult topic and I feel bad, as I know Jim does, about this set-back.

I will be working with Jim in the near future to see how he may go back into ministry. I hope things will go well with you and I'll continue to look for someone who might be of help.

Faternally yours,

Rev. Patrick O'Malley  
Vicar for Priests



**ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO**

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

645 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, SUITE 543

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

Off: (312) 642-1837

Fax: (312) 642-4933

Memo to File (POM)

Re: Jim Hoder

6/24/92

██████████ called me from Catholic Charities today to talk about Jim Hoder. We had been pursuing a part-time chaplaincy for Jim at the University of Illinois Hospitals. The offer to Jim Hoder at this time is that he would work four hours on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday each week, and also be on calls on those same three days. He would work out his protocol with ██████████

Jim Hoder will find out what the pay is for that job, and we will deduct that amount from his present salary. In other words, we will make up to Jim whatever lacks in his total pay. This may sound confusing, but we will work it out.

██████████ will sit down with Jim Hoder and explain what the expectations are. Jim Hoder will also meet with the staff over at the hospital to do the same. This could be a good solution for ministry for Jim. He does speak Spanish and a bit of Slovak as well.



## ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

645 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, SUITE 543

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

Off: (312) 642-1837

Fax: (312) 642-4933

Memo (POM)

To: Rev. Patrick Pollard

Re: James Hoder

7/3/92

James Hoder is a client of ours and he recently completed a course of training in the Spanish language. He is eligible for a \$500.00 continuing education fee from the Archdiocese. I would ask you to make out a check for that amount to him and send it to our office. We shall send it on to Jim. I am sending with this a copy of the statement of account for the bill run up at Loyola University.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.



*Rev. Pat. O'Malley*

CONFIDENTIAL

## MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 15, 1992

SUBJECT: Jim Hoder

FROM: Reverend Edwin M. Conway *ED*

TO: Reverend Pat O'Malley  
Reverend John Canary  
Reverend Andrew McDonagh

It is my understanding that there has been some final arrangements made for Jim Hoder to begin a limited chaplaincy at Illinois University Hospital Center. Starting August 1, Jim will work Sunday, Monday and Tuesday for four hours each day. The rest of the time will be filled by Father Elliot who is already on the pastoral staff at St. Luke's Hospital. We are fortunate also that a permanent Deacon, Tom Coffey, who has training in clinical pastoral education will do some of the pastoral care as well as coordinate and recruit Eucharistic Ministers that can be utilized by all the chaplains.

I presume this meets with your approval.

CONFIDENTIAL

**INDIVIDUAL SPECIFIC PROTOCOL**  
**FOR REVEREND JAMES HODER**

I have reviewed, understood and agree to the following requirements of this protocol:

1) Unaccompanied out-of-house activities include the following:

[REDACTED]  
University of Illinois Hospitals - Pastoral Service - Sun., Mon. and Tue. - flexible hours, usually 4 hours a day. When on call, normally twice a week, can go to U of I H whenever needed - in case of night shift the resident is to leave a written note to the residence staff member on duty

[REDACTED]  
Parish Pray Group - Thu. afternoon

[REDACTED]  
Army mass - 1st weekend of month

Mass at Mercy Hospital, when needed - Sun.

[REDACTED]  
Bicycle ride - every day

Visits with family, classmates and friends, priests from St. Joseph [REDACTED] and other parishes, [REDACTED] Church, going to restaurants, movies, theatres, health clubs, Mid-Town Tennis Club, Shopping, participation at other social events - every day.

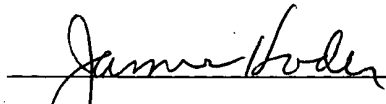
- 2) Attendance at all activities and the specific names, addresses, time, telephone numbers regarding resident's whereabouts must be entered on the individual itinerary. If for some reason(s) the mentioned above requirements cannot be met, resident is obliged to call in and update the residence staff member about his whereabouts.
- 3) Resident is accountable for his own time and is required to support his attendance at social events with physical proof i.e., movie ticket, receipt from restaurant, etc., If such a proof cannot be provided, resident is required to call in the residence staff member from the place of his destination. The telephone number from where the call has been made may be verified by a staff member. Unlisted, unpublished telephone numbers will not suffice unless previously approved by the Executive Director or designate. Using mobile telephone is not permitted. Repeated unsuccessful attempts to reach resident at the given number(s) will be followed by writing a memorandum. Such a memorandum will be kept on file at North Vianney Residence. In case of repeated violations, copies of original memoranda will be forwarded to the Archdiocese Vicar for Priests and [REDACTED]

- 4) Prior approval for celebration of masses at the places itemized above and religious services such as weddings, baptisms, funerals etc., must be received from the Archdiocese Vicar for Priests.
- 5) In order to leave boundaries of the Archdiocese resident must receive permission from the Vicar.
- 6) Visitations by previously approved visitors can only occur at room 408. All visitors must sign in and out at the Community Room - apt. 104.
- 7) No one under the age of eighteen is permitted to be at the residence unless prior approval has been obtained from the residence Executive Director, treatment team and the Vicar for Priests or his designate. Meeting with minors, in and out of the residence can take place only in the presence of an approved companion.
- 8) Any deviation and/or non-compliance with requirements of this protocol will be addressed by the Executive Residence and/or designate and may be grounds for modification of currently existing arrangements regarding resident's stay [REDACTED]. Such modification will be collectively determined by the Vicar for Priests and/or designate in conjunction with Executive Director [REDACTED]. In case of emergency any staff member can modify this protocol until an administrative decision can be made by the residence Executive Director and/or designate.
- 9) In order to change this protocol prior approval must be received from the Vicar for Priests [REDACTED] in conjunction with Executive Director.

This is a working document which can be changed, altered or superceded where there is an indicated need to do so.

A copy of this protocol will be kept on file at [REDACTED] and a copy will be sent to the Archdiocese Vicar for Priests.

Signed:



Printed Name:

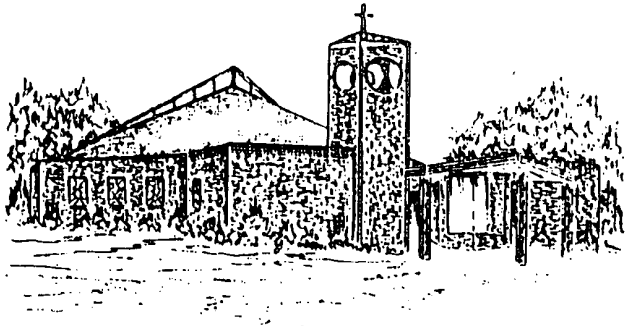
**JAMES HODER**

Date:

8-14-92

Executive Director:

[REDACTED]



TRANSFIGURATION CHURCH

8-8-92

Father Pat,

I am beginning at the University of Illinois Hospital. I will be working 4 hours Sunday, Monday + Tuesday at the hospital. I will also be on the beeper for any emergency anountings on Tuesday & Thursday's - 5 PM to 8 A.M. I will receive \$500.00 per month for this. If you have any comments, please let me know.

Yours truly,  
Fr. Jim Hodar



**ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO**

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

645 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, SUITE 543

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

Off: (312) 642-1837  
Fax: (312) 642-4933

August 19, 1992

Rev. James Hoder



Dear Jim,

I got your notice of August 8 that you're beginning at the University of Illinois. Please let me know if you will be receiving that \$500 for the month of August. If not for the month of August, then when does it begin? I need to rearrange the salary with the Archdiocese.

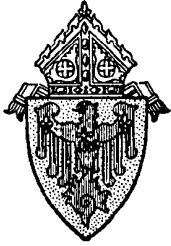
I hope this really works for you and I'll say an extra prayer that it will.

Faternally yours,

Rev. Patrick O'Malley  
Vicar for Priests

Victim Statement Abstract

This abstract replaces handwritten notes received by Fr. Thomas Paprocki, Vice-Chancellor of the Archdiocese of Chicago, on November 11, 1992, summarizing a conversation with Victim MR regarding Victim MR's allegation of sexual abuse against Fr. James Hoder.



## ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

645 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, SUITE 543

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

Off: (312) 642-1837  
Fax: (312) 642-4933

Memo to File  
From: Rev. Patrick O'Malley  
Date: 11/13/92  
Re: James Hoder [REDACTED]

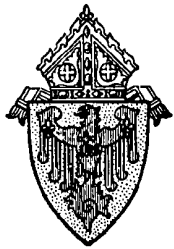
Ed Conway had received a call from [REDACTED] who is the director of Pastoral Ministry at the University of Illinois at Chicago and for the hospital as well. She is the one who agreed to take on Jim Hoder in a part-time capacity, working in the chaplain's office.

She is extremely concerned about Hoder at this time, mainly because she is receiving communications from a Fr. [REDACTED], who is the chaplain there, as well as from Deacon [REDACTED], who is also a chaplain. They feel that Hoder is not doing his work. On one occasion recently when they came into the office he was sitting in his chair with his coat over him, almost like in a fetal position. They think he might be severely depressed. At any rate, he is not doing the work that he was contracted to do. [REDACTED] will confront him on this.

[REDACTED] also said that she spoke to Carol Fowler about what she should know about Jim Hoder regarding his background. I explained to [REDACTED] that, for some reason, I did not inform her of Hoder's background. I should have informed her at the time, but I guess I presumed that she knew. That was my fault and so I informed her about as much as I thought she needed to know about his background and why he was in the situation where he is at right now. She feels she may have to share that with the Administration at the Hospital, although she does not know exactly with whom. I told her I felt she also had to do that and I would work with her to inform them. Again, I told her that we would be meeting with Hoder today to talk about this matter [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] will confront Hoder next week on the question of his not doing the work. She will contact me beforehand, before she speaks to the hospital authorities as to what should be said and to whom it should be said.

Later on the 13th, Andy McDonagh and I met with Hoder [REDACTED]. We tried to impress upon him the need to be very active and alert in his work at the hospital. He has a tendency to let up once the initial excitement is over. [REDACTED]



**ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO**

**VICAR FOR PRIESTS**

**645 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, SUITE 543**

**CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611**

Off: (312) 642-1837

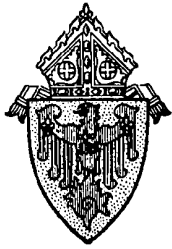
Fax: (312) 642-4933

[REDACTED] We also stressed the importance of wearing his collar to be known as a priest. His future in ministry will depend on the report we get back from the hospital.

We explained to Jim that we are going to be telling his superiors at the hospital about his background - something we should have done at the very start. Jim acknowledged that he does not go into the pediatrics area nor work with young people. It may end up that they will not want him once they know of his background. We will deal with that when we come to it.

### Victim Statement Abstract

This abstract replaces handwritten notes of Fr. John Canary, Vicar for Priests of the Archdiocese of Chicago, dated November 21, 1992, summarizing a telephone conversation with Victim MR and Victim MR's allegation of sexual abuse against Fr. James Hoder. According to the notes, Hoder fondled Victim MR on one occasion when Victim MR was in his mid- to late-teens.



## ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

645 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, SUITE 543

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

Off: (312) 642-1837

Fax: (312) 642-4933

Memo to File

From: Rev. Patrick O'Malley

Date: 11/25/92

Re: James Hoder

I spoke to [REDACTED] who is Jim Hoder's superior in his ministry at the University of Illinois Hospital.

[REDACTED] spoke with Fr. Hoder on Monday, Nov. 23, to confront him with the information about his reportedly bad work habits. She talked about the incidents that were reported to her by other members of the staff. After discussion with Hoder, she concluded that there was a misunderstanding and a miscommunication. She did exhort him in the future to stay home if he is not able to walk and get to do his rounds.

She also indicated to him that there is no immediate authority over him in the hospital setting, so he needs to be a self-starter. She reiterated what we had told Fr. Hoder the week before when those complaints first came in. He needs to do everything at the very best capacity.

I also spoke to Fr. Paprocki today and asked him to send a letter to Hoder withdrawing his limited faculties at the University of Illinois Hospital and I asked him to send a copy to [REDACTED]

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of the Chancellor



Post Office Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690

(312) 751-8220  
Fax (312) 751-5381

November 25, 1992

Reverend James A. Hoder  
[REDACTED]

Dear Father Hoder:

As explained to you by Father Patrick O'Malley, Vicar for Priests, it has become necessary to place you on administrative leave from all ministry. Accordingly, the authorization for limited ministry indicated in my letter to you dated October 8, 1992 is hereby rescinded. In particular, you are to discontinue ministry at the University of Illinois Hospital. In addition, your faculties as a priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago are revoked for the time being in accord with canon law, especially canons 764 and 967 §2.

You are asked to return your celebret card to Father O'Malley or me at your earliest opportunity.

Decisions about your future will depend upon further inquiry and assessment.

Please know that you will be remembered in my prayers.

With every best wish, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas J. Paprocki".

Reverend Thomas J. Paprocki  
Chancellor

Given at the Chancery

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert J. Glenn, S.V.D.".  
Vice-Chancellor

cc: ✓ Reverend Patrick J. O'Malley, Vicar for Priests  
[REDACTED] Ministry in Higher Education

AOC 014834

# Assumption Church

November 27, 1992

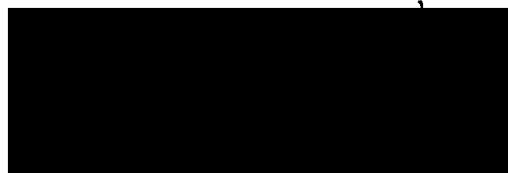
To Whom It May Concern:

I was assigned as pastor of Assumption BVM parish in August of 1984. Rev. James Hoder was already serving an assignment here as associate pastor when I arrived. He left for another assignment in 1985. I have been here ever since.

During the time when we were both assigned here and in these subsequent seven years, I have never heard from anyone in the parish or neighborhood of any impropriety -- sexual or otherwise -- with regard to Fr. Hoder. In these past few years, everyone has become sensitized to the possibility of scandals and this neighborhood is at least as rife with rumors as any other. Nevertheless, I have neither personally heard nor heard from anyone else about any impropriety on Fr. Hoder's part.

It is my understanding that Fr. Hoder was "pushed" into working with young people after a couple of years of his being assigned here. Some of the staff at that time thought that he should work with the eighth grade. He confined himself to teaching religion and to a couple of group trips. Later, because one of the eighth graders was also gang-involved, he became friends with various members of a local gang. I think that even Fr. Hoder himself would now agree that he was a bit naive and ill-prepared to deal with these "street kids". They gave him and the parish quite a bit of trouble for a while, but no one has ever questioned his good will and right motivation in his work with them here.

Sincerely,



pastor

# Holy Ghost Church

700 EAST 170TH STREET  
SOUTH HOLLAND, ILLINOIS 60473  
TELEPHONE (708) 333-7011

November 29. 1992

Rev. Patrick J. O'Malley  
Vicar for Pirests  
800 North Clark Street #311  
Chicago, Illinis 60610

Reverend and dear Father O'Malley:

I am writing this letter at the request of Father James Hoder with whom I served for some years at St. Ita Parish in Chicago, Illinois. I do not recall the exact years, but I do know that it was in the early and mid-seventies.

In his phone call to me, Father asked that I address the issue of sexual misconduct on his part with minors. I never heard of any allegations from anyone about this matter. I did tell Father, and said that I would mention it in this letter, that a young lady had come to me regarding an accusation involving a former seminarian who was not a minor. The young man's name was [REDACTED] I spoke in confidence with another priest about the matter, and then brought it to the attention of the Archdiocesan officials. Father Hoder tells me [REDACTED] over this accusation and that this matter was fully known to the Archdiocese.

It is true that Father assocaited himself with younger people, and I did do some indirect checking into his behavior, but no one ever made any accusation of any sexual contact or misconduct. I did talk to Father and suggested that such associations were, from my standpoint, imprudent and could occasion misunderstandings. I did note that many of the other priests of his age who served at or lived at St. Ita Parish also had people in their living quarters. I recall that both Monsignor Picard and I were somewhat confused at the difference in lifestyle, but we both attributed it to our difference in age and formal education.

Other than the instance I mentioned above, no one ever brought anything to my attention regarding Father's behavior in that are of life nor did I personally observe anything.

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
[REDACTED]



8307 HARLEM AVE., NILES, IL 60714-2698  
(708) 966 - 8145

Nov. 30, 1992

Rev. Patrick J. O'Malley  
Vicar For Priests  
645 N. Michigan Ave.  
Chicago, IL - 60611


Dear Fr. O'Malley:

I am writing to you on behalf of Rev. James Hoder with whom I spoke yesterday.

I hereby attest that during the time that we were both assigned to St. Ita's Parish, I neither observed, nor was I informed of, any inappropriate sexual activity on his part. I further attest that no such information had come to me until last week when I heard that he had become involved in the current situation in the archdiocese.

Respectfully,

In Christ



copy: Rev. James Hoder

AOC 014837

**ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO**

**METROPOLITAN TRIBUNAL**  
(312) 751-7999, ext. 8384

P.O. Box 1979 ■ Chicago IL ■ 60690

«155 E. Superior ■ Chicago IL 60611» //

1 December, 1992

Rev. John Canary  
Co-vicar for Priests  
645 North Michigan Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60611

Dear John:

Fr. Jim Hoder has been in contact with me, concerning his on-going discussions with the Vicar for Priests office. He has asked for canonical advice regarding the actions that were taken in his case, and any future actions that might result from pending allegations.

I have agreed to act as Jim's advocate. Therefore, I would ask that copies of any correspondence you send to Jim be sent to me. As you know, a person only has a brief period of time in which to lodge recourse against a decision. By sending me a copy of anything you send to Jim, we can avoid any undue delays, should Jim object to a decision that was made in his case.

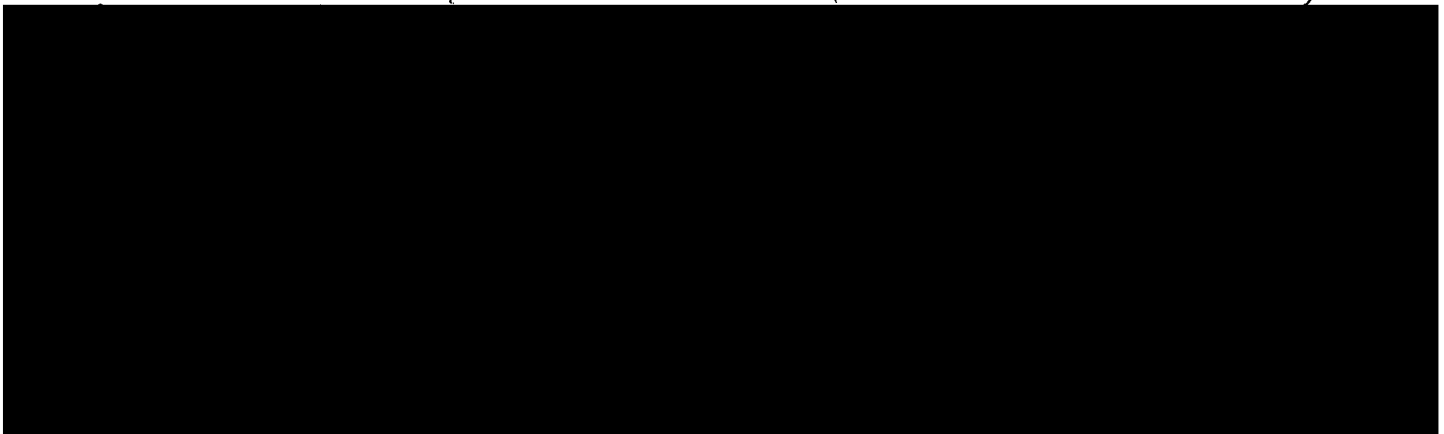
If you would like to talk to me personally about this matter, you can reach me at (312) 751-8384.

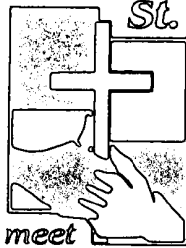
Sincerely yours in Christ,

*Patrick R. Lagges*

(Rev.) Patrick R. Lagges

cc: Rev. James Hoder





*St. Thomas of Canterbury Parish*

*4827 North Kenmore Avenue*

*Chicago, Illinois 60640*

*(312) 878-5507*

*Uptown*

*... where many cultures meet*

Rev. Patrick O'Malley  
Vicar for Priests  
Archdiocese of Chicago

Dear Pat,

Dec.2, 1992

My classmate, Jim Hoder told me that there are questions as to the quality of his ministry in the past, and he asked me to write my thoughts on the subject.

I remember the great enthusiasm with Jim came to the ministry and the joy he had in helping people and praying with them. We had regular contact then through the priests prayer group, and Jim would on occasion substitute for me when I needed supply help.

Jim had a series of difficult assignments and I remember his frustration as the joy of his work was taken from him. In particular I remember the enthusiasm with which he served the Slovak senior citizens of Assumption parish. He was in the process of learning Slovak when the Mass was cancelled and the community dissolved.

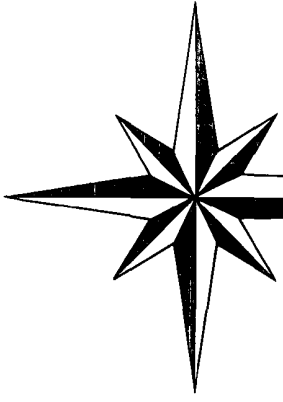
I think that Jim brings some great gifts to the ministry. He is very intelligent, and thus he is an insightful preacher. It also has given him a great facility for languages. He speaks Spanish with real fluency and understanding. He is also a very good listener and has always exhibited a great kindness for senior citizens.

It is my prayer that his enthusiasm can be rediscovered and his considerable gifts can once again be of service to the Church.

I also pray that despite the difficulty of your work, you will enjoy the peace of Christ this Christmas.

Your brother in the Lord,





# RESPECT LIFE

The Archdiocese of Chicago  
721 N. LaSalle  
Chicago, Illinois 60610  
312-266-6100

12-2-92

Fr. O'Malley,

In our last meeting at your office, a question was raised about there being others who were minors coming forward with allegations. I believe not. I have contacted all the priests that I have been assigned with, plus two religious women, and asked them to address this concern. They are: Mrs. [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], & [REDACTED], & Mrs. [REDACTED] & [REDACTED] you will be receiving their responses soon.

Secondly, the issue was raised about my faithfully following the then Vicar for Priest's instructions at St. David. I did. Fr. O'Keefe, Sr. Jeonette, & the housekeeper are also responding to this concern.

I hope this will be helpful

Yours truly  
Fr. James Hodler

12/2/92

Rev Patrick J. O'Malley  
Vicar for Priests

Dear Pat,

Rev. James Hodar was associate pastor at St Jla Parish 1975-1981. During that time I was in residence at St Jla. I never once heard any complaint about his dealings with the parishioners - young or old - esp. in the moral area. I can say the same in my official capacity as Vicar General. (I am writing this letter at the request of Father Hodar).

With all the Blessings of this holy season;

I am Sincerely yours,

(If I can be of any further help, please advise)

COPY

December 9, 1992

Rev. Thomas J. Paprocki  
Chancellor  
Archdiocese of Chicago  
P.O. Box 1979  
Chicago, IL 60690-1979

Dear Father Paprocki:

On December 7, I received your letter of November 25, 1992 in which you placed me on administrative leave from my ministry at the University of Illinois Hospital, and suspended my faculties in the Archdiocese of Chicago.

I accept your decision to rescind authorization for my limited ministry at the University of Illinois Hospital, pending further inquiry [REDACTED]

However, I ask you to revoke your decree of suspension. Since suspension from the exercise of ministry is a canonical penalty, which must be applied according to the norm of law, I believe that this penalty was illegitimately, and perhaps invalidly, imposed, according to cc. 1341 and 1347.

I make this petition in accordance with c. 1734. Since the postmark on the letter was December 1, 1992, and I did not receive the letter until December 7, the latter date will be considered as the date of reception of the decree.

I await your reply. I would also ask that you send a copy of your reply to Rev. Patrick R. Lagges, 155 E. Superior Street, Chicago, Illinois, 60611, who is acting as my advocate.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

(Rev.) James Hoder

cc. Rev. Patrick R. Lagges  
Rev. Patrick J. O'Malley ✓

AOC 014842

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of the Chancellor



Post Office Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690

(312) 751-8220  
Fax (312) 751-5381

December 16, 1992

Reverend Patrick R. Lagges  
Metropolitan Tribunal  
155 East Superior Street  
Chicago, IL 60611

Dear Pat:

Father James Hoder has indicated that you are representing him as his canonical advocate. As he has requested, I am sending you copies of the Archdiocese's official correspondence with him pertaining to his administrative leave of absence, including my most recent letter responding to his letter of December 9, 1992. In addition, I will send copies of future correspondence to you, or will communicate with you directly, if that would be Father Hoder's preference.

In turn, you are asked to direct future communications with the Archdiocese on behalf of Father Hoder to me, including communications with the Vicar for Priests office.

With every best wish, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas J. Paprocki".

Reverend Thomas J. Paprocki  
Chancellor

cc: Reverend James A. Hoder  
✓ Reverend Patrick J. O'Malley

AOC 014843

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of the Chancellor

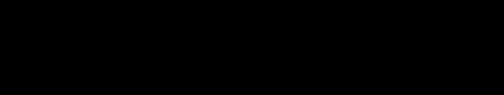


Post Office Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690

(312) 751-8220  
Fax (312) 751-5381

December 16, 1992

Reverend James A. Hoder



Dear Father Hoder:

I am writing in response to your letter of December 9, 1992 in which you asked me to revoke my "decree of suspension." In making this request, you indicated that, since suspension is a canonical penalty, you believed that this penalty was illegitimately, and perhaps invalidly, imposed, according to cc. 1341 and 1347.

In reply, I wish to clarify that my letter of November 25, 1992 in no way imposed a penalty of suspension in the sense of canon 1333. Rather, it was a revocation of faculties. The difference between the two may seem indistinguishable, but it is an important distinction since, as you point out, there are some essential steps which are required in order to impose a canonical penalty validly.

In contrast, the revocation of faculties is not a canonical sanction. As stated in the enclosed article by Father James H. Provost, Chairperson of the Department of Canon Law at the Catholic University of America, "Removing faculties is an administrative act. The diocesan bishop can remove faculties, as can another executive in the diocese authorized to do this" ("Faculties," *Clergy Procedural Handbook* [Washington, D.C.: Canon Law Society of America, 1992]).

As Father Provost indicates, even an administrative act has some procedural requirements when it may have an adverse effect on the individual. Accordingly, my letter revoked your faculties after you were heard by the Co-Vicars for Priests, Fathers Patrick O'Malley and John Canary and after they explained to you the reasons why it had become necessary to place you on administrative leave from all ministry. In particular, I note that canon 764 does not require the ordinary to state any reason for restricting or taking away the faculty to preach. In addition, canon 974, §1 says that the local ordinary is not to revoke the faculty to hear confessions habitually "except for a serious cause" ("*nisi gravem ob causam*"). Precisely what constitutes a "serious cause" is not specified, but would not necessarily require a finding that the priest was guilty of a canonical offense.

The position of the Archdiocese is that the nature of the allegations against you are such as to constitute a "serious cause" requiring the revocation

Letter to Reverend James A. Hoder  
December 16, 1992 - Page 2

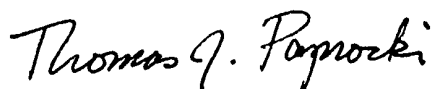
of your faculties, at least for the time being. This should not be construed as a finding of guilt, but rather, that the allegation itself, along with the time and energy needed on your part to respond to further inquiry and assessment, present a serious obstacle to the exercise of priestly ministry.

For these reasons, my letter of November 25, 1992 remains in effect.

As you requested, I am sending a copy of this letter and other official correspondence with you to the priest you have appointed as your canon lawyer, Reverend Patrick R. Lagges.

With every best wish, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas J. Paprocki".

Reverend Thomas J. Paprocki

cc: Reverend Patrick R. Lagges  
Reverend Patrick J. O'Malley

17 December, 1992

COPY

Joseph Cardinal Bernardin  
Archbishop of Chicago  
P.O. Box 1979  
Chicago, IL 60690

Your Eminence:

In accordance with c. 1737, I am hereby petitioning for hierarchical recourse against a decree issued on November 25, 1992 by Rev. Thomas J. Paprocki. I received this decree on December 7, 1992. In this decree, Fr. Paprocki rescinded Archdiocesan permission for me to engage in limited ministry. At the same time, he removed the faculties granted to me by cc. 764 and 967.2.

The decree removing these faculties is at issue.

My reasons for petitioning that the decree be withdrawn are: (1) Removal of faculties which are granted by the law itself is a canonical penalty, according to c. 1333, since these faculties are not considered "favors" (cc. 76ff), but "rights" (c. 38). (2) While penalties can be inflicted administratively, proper procedure must be followed in doing so. This procedure was not followed in my case. (3) The decree did not fulfill the requirements of c. 51, since it did not state the reasons which prompted it. (4) The "serious cause" specified in c. 974.1 was not demonstrated.

Therefore, I request that you reverse the decree which Fr. Paprocki issued, removing those faculties granted me by the law itself.

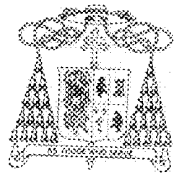
As I stated in my letter of December 9, 1992, to Fr. Paprocki, I accept his decision to rescind authorization for my limited ministry at the University of Illinois Hospital, pending further inquiry and assessment.

I await your reply. I would also ask that you send a copy of your reply to Rev. Patrick R. Lagges, 155 E. Superior Street, Chicago, Illinois, 60611, who is acting as my advocate in this case.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

(Rev.) James Hoder

cc: Rev. Patrick R. Lagges  
Rev. Patrick J. O'Malley ✓  
Rev. Thomas J. Paprocki



MEMO from

CARDINAL BERNARDIN

To: Fr. Paprocki Date: 12/23

Tom,

You are drafting the  
reply to this letter. I  
spoke with Pat O'Malley  
about it today. When I  
return from Mexico, I'll  
review your draft &  
then send it on.

Thanks

December 30, 1992

To Whom It May Concern:

I was asked to share my observations regarding Father Jim Hoder while he was residing at St David's Parish at 3210 South Union, Chicago Illinois. It was my understanding that he was given certain directives by his superiors regarding his association with youth and minors. I was not informed of the details, I was only informed of just general house rules that Father Jim was to abide by.

During Jim's residency at St David, I was serving the parish in the capacity of Pastoral Associate. I worked with Jim for four years. My association with Jim was pleasant, cooperative, supportive, and very pastoral. He took his ministry seriously and carried out whatever he was asked to do.

To my knowledge, Father Jim carried out his directives regarding the minors while he was on the premises of St. David's parish. I have not seen the minors with Jim in the bedroom areas nor have I seen Jim entertain them in his living quarters with closed doors.

If I can be of further assistance, do not hesitate to call me at [REDACTED] Presently, I am a full-time student at Loyola University, Chicago.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

# ST. DAVID CHURCH

3210 S. UNION AVE.  
CHICAGO, IL 60616  
(312)842-0055

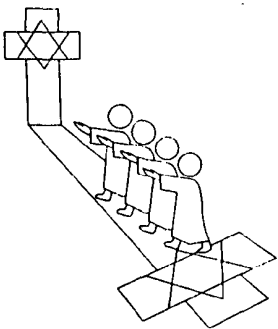
January 18, 1993

To whom it may concern:

I am writing this letter at the request of Fr. James Hoder, who was my associate at St. David Church from 1985 until August, 1990. He has asked me to address two concerns that were raised by the Vicar for Priest's in a meeting that he had. These concerns had to do with Fr. Hoder's terminating of his relationships with certain young people from his previous assignment at Assumption parish, and his contact with people here at St. David.

As directed by Fr. Ventura, then Vicar for Priest's, Fr. Hoder was to terminate contact with several young people he had known from Assumption parish. Within a short period of time of about three months, he fulfilled this request. Secondly, as regards to visits of any people in our private rooms, I suggested to Fr. Hoder as a matter of prudence that he always keep his door open when having guests. He again was completely faithful in following this request in the time he was associate pastor at St. David's. Finally, no one has ever come forward to me with any complaint about Fr. Hoder's conduct with themselves. I hope that this letter will be of help to the Archdiocese in granting Fr. Hoder a future assignment.

Yours truly,



Tuite, Stratton & Menaker

105 West Adams Street  
31st Floor  
Chicago, Illinois 60603

Phone 312/641-1022  
Fax 312/641-6765

Patrick A. Tuite

Brent D. Stratton

Ronald D. Menaker

January 21, 1993

Father Patrick O'Malley  
Archdiocese of Chicago  
Vicar for Priests  
800 N. Clark Street  
Suite 311  
Chicago, IL 60610

Re: Father James Hoder

Dear Father O'Malley:

As you know, our office has been retained by Father James Hoder concerning the allegation that was reported to you in November 1992. We have advised Father Hoder not to make any direct response to you concerning this allegation. However, we would like to bring certain matters to your attention.

In 1986 or 1987, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Father Hoder also was asked to discontinue contact with certain individuals from the parish to which he was then assigned, which he did shortly thereafter.

[REDACTED] The fact that Father Hoder discontinued contact with the individuals at his then parish is corroborated by the letters of Father Millard O'Keefe and Sister Leonette from St. David. Father Hoder also asked the priests who have worked with him since ordination to comment on the possibility of other allegations. Their answers are on file. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

As for any legal ramifications, our office has advised Father Hoder that, as best as we can determine, there is no risk of any criminal prosecution arising out of either of the allegations since the statute of limitations has run on both of the allegations. In addition, our office has advised Father

AOC 014850

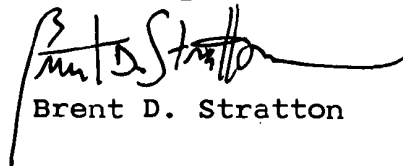
Father Patrick O'Malley  
January 21, 1993  
Page 2

Hoder himself and the Diocese are beyond any risk as far as a lawsuit with respect to the first allegation, and that there is only a very remote possibility of some civil action being filed on the second allegation. According to the information we have received, apparently neither of the two parties making allegations have ever indicated that they would take civil action against Father Hoder or the Diocese.

We believe that all of these facts point toward Father Hoder being favorably considered for a priestly ministry in the Archdiocese, and that the trials of the past year, [REDACTED] have made him a better priest than he has ever been.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to call us.

Sincerely,



Brent D. Stratton

BDS:ss

[REDACTED]

February 2, 1993

**INDIVIDUAL SPECIFIC PROTOCOL**  
**FOR REVEREND JAMES HODER**

I have reviewed, understood and agree to all requirements of this protocol:

- 1) Unaccompanied out-of-house activities include the following:

Mercy Hospital - meals - every day  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Parish Pray Group - Thu. afternoon  
[REDACTED]

Army mass - 1st weekend of month

Mass at Mercy Hospital - when needed, Sundays  
[REDACTED]

Bicycle ride - every day

Visits with family, classmates and friends, social events/dinning, movies, theatres, shopping, etc., / - every day

- 2) Attendance at all activities and the specific names, addresses, time, telephone numbers regarding resident's whereabouts must be entered on the individual's itinerary. If for some reason(s) the itemized requirements cannot be met, resident is obliged to call in and update a staff member about his whereabouts. The phone call should be made as soon as possible /as soon as change(s) in individual's schedule has been made/.
- 3) Resident is accountable for his own time and is required to support his attendance at social events with physical proof /i.e., movie ticket, receipt from restaurant, etc.,/. If such a proof cannot be provided /visiting family and friends, dining at private residences, etc.,/ resident is required to call in the residence staff member from the call in every four hours unless decided otherwise by

the residence Executive Director and/or the Archdiocese of Chicago Vicar for Priests or designate. The telephone number from where the call has been made can be verified by a staff member. Unlisted, unpublished and/or mobile telephone numbers will not suffice. Unsuccessful attempts to reach resident when out-of-house will be followed by writing a memorandum. Such a memorandum will be kept on file [REDACTED]. In case of repeated violations copies of original memoranda will be forwarded to the Archdiocese Vicar for Priests.

- 4) In order to leave boundaries of Chicago metropolitan area resident must receive permission from the Vicar or his designate.
- 5) Prior approval for public celebration of masses and other religious services such as weddings, baptisms, funerals, etc., must be received from the Vicar for Priests or his designate.
- 6) Any contraband materials such as alcohol and pornography will be confiscated and can be done by any staff member. VCR is not permitted at resident's apartment unless permission has been granted by the Vicar [REDACTED].
- 7) Visitation can only occur only at resident's apartment. All visitors must sign in and out at the Community Room.
- 8) No one under the age of eighteen is permitted to be at the residence unless prior approval has been received from Executive Director, [REDACTED] and/or the Vicar for Priests. Meetings with minors, in and out of the residence, can take place only in the presence of an approved companion.
- 9) Any deviation and/or non-compliance with requirements of this protocol will be addressed by Executive Director and/or designate and may be grounds for modification of currently existing arrangements regarding resident's stay [REDACTED]. Such a modification will be collectively determined by the Archdiocese Vicar for Priests and/or designate in conjunction with the residence Director [REDACTED]. In case of emergency, any staff member can modify this protocol until an administrative decision can be made by Executive Director and/or designate.

- 10) In order to change this protocol prior approval must be obtained from the Archdiocese Vicar for Priests [REDACTED]
- 11) This is a working document which can be changed, altered or superseded when there is an indicated need to do so.
- 12) A copy of this protocol will be sent to the Office of the Archdiocese Vicar for Priests.

Signed:

James Hoder

Printed Name:

JAMES HODER

Date:

~~Feb~~ March 5, 1993

Executive Director:

[REDACTED]



**ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO**

**VICAR FOR PRIESTS**

**645 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, SUITE 543**

**CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611**

Off: (312) 642-1837

Fax: (312) 642-4933

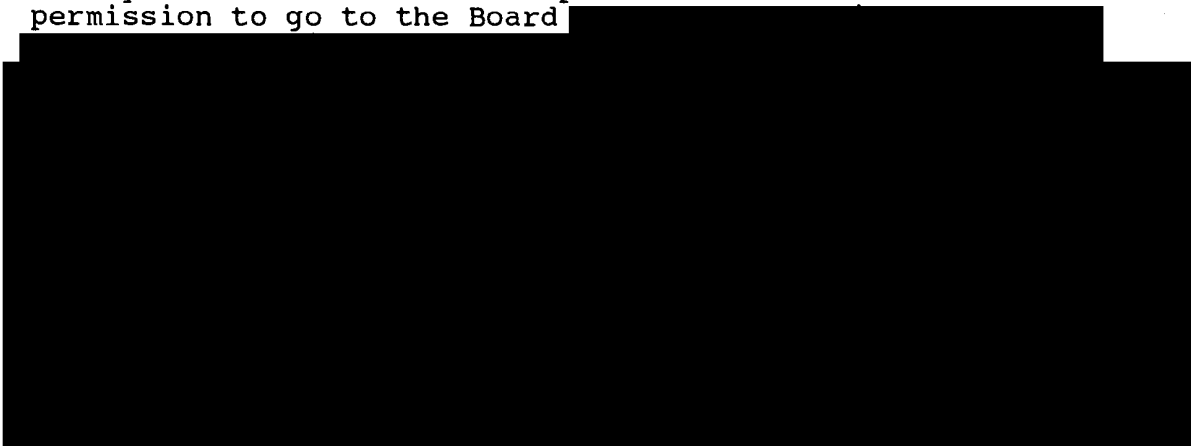
Memo to File

From: Rev. Patrick O'Malley

Date: 3/29/93

Re: James Hoder

I met with James Hoder today to talk about his situation regarding the Fitness Review Board and a possible request for re-entry into some partial ministry in the future. I explained to James all the ramifications of such a request, namely that he would have to petition the Cardinal first for permission to go to the Board



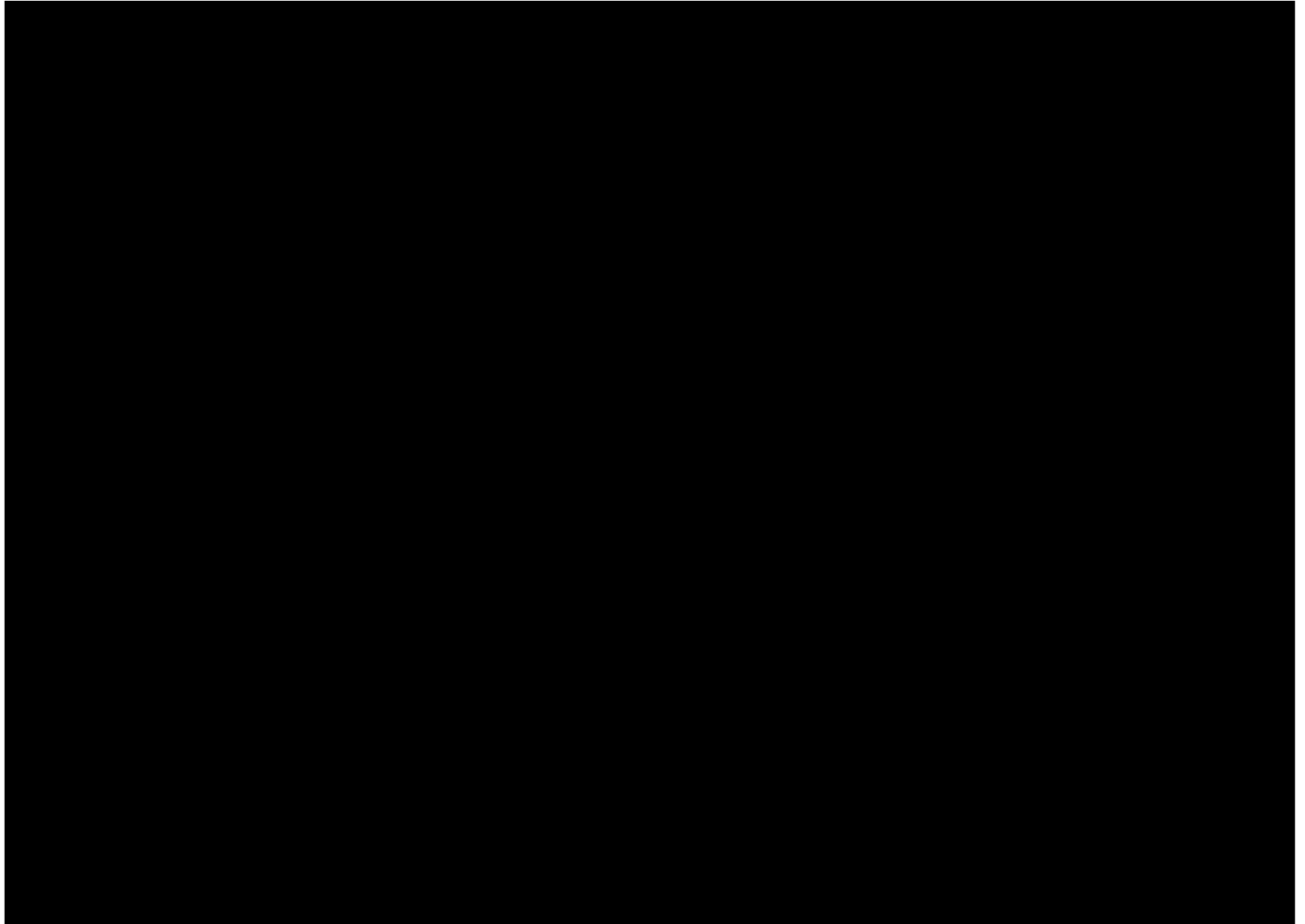
Rev. Joseph L. Fitzharris

DEAR STEVE,

WOULD YOU PLEASE  
REIMBURSE JIM HODER &  
MYSELF \$25 EACH FOR  
THE PRESBYTERIAL DAY FROM  
OUR \$600 EDUCATION-PROFESSIONAL  
FUND, (AT MILES ON  
MAY 11 1993 ?)

Joe Fitz

PROFESSIONAL GROWTH



Rev. James Hoder

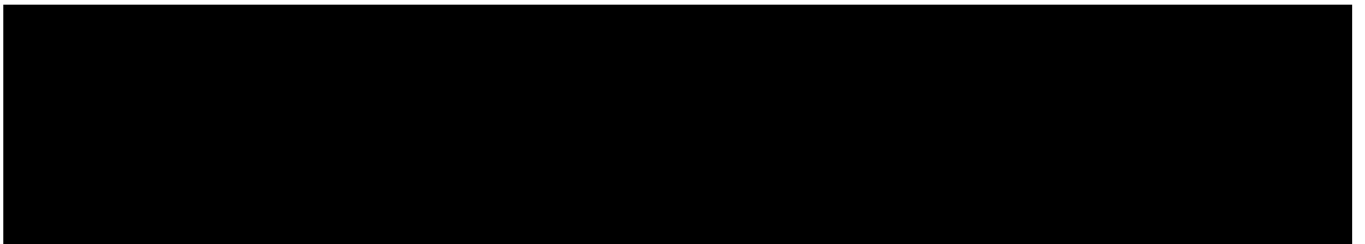
5-11-93  
12-93

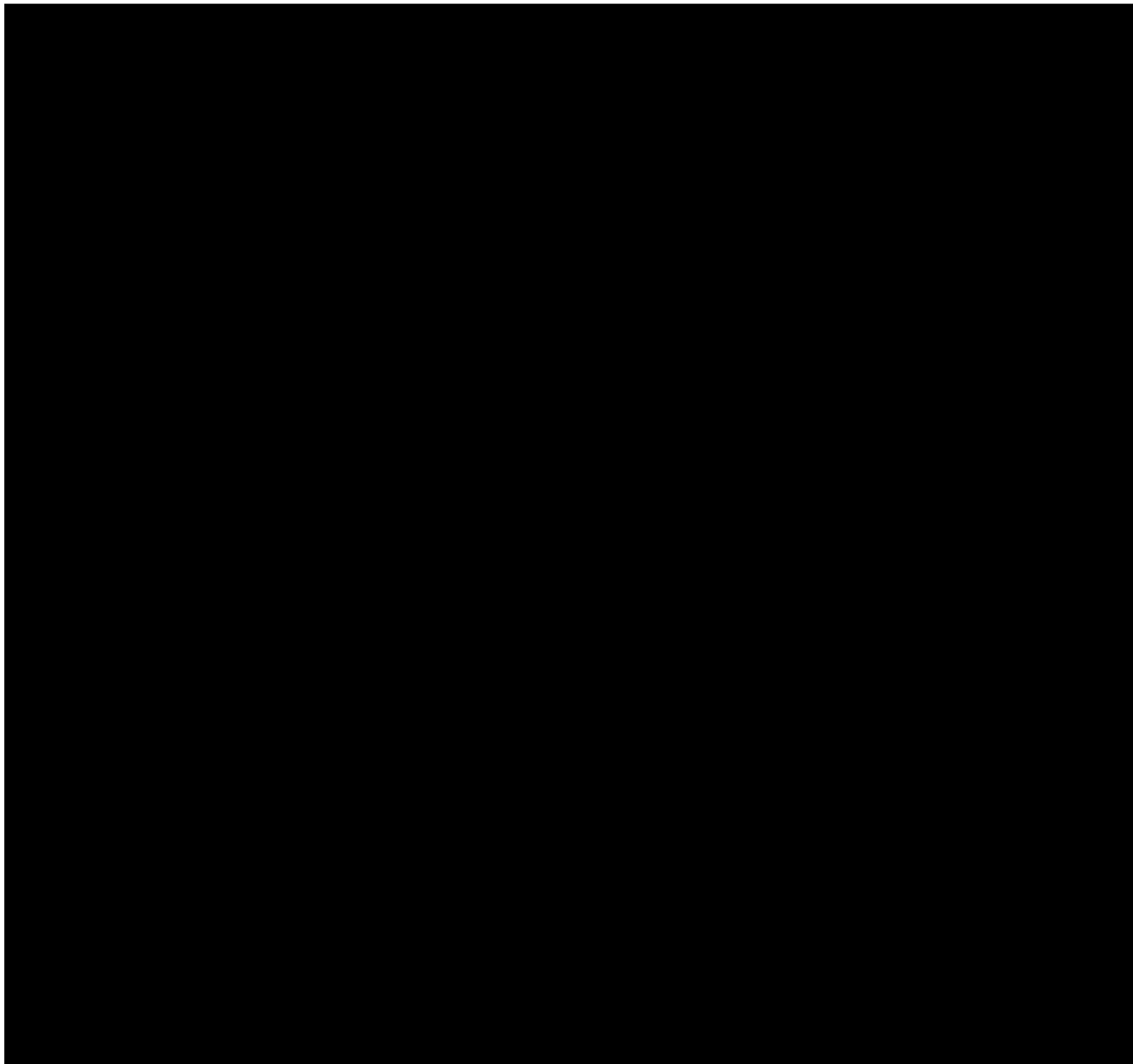
Prebs. Day  
Books

25.00  
268.50

Total

\$293.50





MEMO

TO: Rev. James Hoder

FROM: Steve Sidlowski

DATE: July 12, 1993

RE: Reimbursement Check

Enclosed is check in the amount of \$25.00 as reimbursement for  
Presbyteral Day in May, 1993.

AOC 014859

ARCHDIOCESAN SABBATICAL BOARD  
CENTER FOR DEVELOPMENT IN MINISTRY  
ST. MARY OF THE LAKE UNIVERSITY  
MUNDELEIN, ILLINOIS 60060  
(312) 566-6401

SABBATICAL REVIEW AND EVALUATION FORM

Name JAMES HODER Phone 842-0055  
Address 3210 S. UNION Year of  
CHICAGO IL 60616 Ordination 1975

Present Assignment in between assignments

Location of your Sabbatical Notre Dame University

Dates of your Sabbatical Aug 21 - Dec 15, 1990

Briefly describe the components of your sabbatical:

Aug 21 - Dec 15 Classroom at UND - South Bend Ind  
Dec 15 - Jan 1 - In Chicago - between my father's home in Oak Park  
& St. Paul Church

Personal: Jan. various travel - to Mexico 1 week. Madagascar 1 week

1. Briefly state the goals you set for your sabbatical:

- a) break from the daily routine
- b) spend time reading & listening to presentations
- c) spend time in prayer

2. How did your sabbatical meet your goals?

The sabbatical met my goals. It was a break of course,  
I was able to meet 30 or so top church leaders & hear their vision.  
Also, there was time for friendly fraternity.

3. How has your sabbatical affected your ministry and your career development?

I do not know in what way yet. The only thing I can see so far is that the sabbatical affected me both personally & in a priestly way.

PROGRAM:

1. Describe the quality of instruction of the program in which you participated:

It would be hard to find a more qualified group anywhere. It was excellent.

2. Describe the depth of the program:

The program covered almost every possible area of church life today.

3. How would you describe and evaluate the other participants in contributing to your experience?

I had a wonderful, much needed experience of priestly brotherhood.

4. Describe the quality of the spiritual components of the program (e.g. prayer life, worship, reflection, spiritual direction, etc.):

Top notch. Along with the resources of the University, the program gave many opportunities for worship, prayer.

5. Describe the quality of the program's environment, in terms of:

a. location: across the street from the University of Notre Dame, fine location. The program was in Janner Hall, a part of Holy Cross College.

b. comfort: rooms were small but adequate.

c. food service: food was excellent. The Holy Cross Mother served great food.

d. housing: *okay*

e. extra-curricular activities: *All the possibilities that Notre Dame has*

6. Did the program offer you personal assistance in the areas of:

a. spiritual direction Yes X No       

If yes, describe its quality: *We met in a group of 10-12 weekly. The priests shared deeply.*

b. academic counseling Yes        No X

If yes, describe its quality:

c. personal counseling Yes X No       

If yes, describe its quality: *It was available if you wanted*

7. Were other options made available to you in addition to the basic program? Yes        No X

If yes, please describe:

8. Overall, how would you rate the program?

*Excellent. The only limitation was that the classroom where we met was too small for 46 people, & 20 hours a week of basically listening to someone talk was hard to do at times.*

9. Would you consider the program: financially worthwhile X

overpriced       

Please explain why:

*Many of the presenters have to be flown in. This adds to the cost.*

10. Would you recommend this site/program to other priests?

Yes X No       

qualifiers on your response:

ARCHDIOCESAN CONCERN:

1. How were your ministerial responsibilities covered while you were away?

*I was finished with my assignment at St David.  
However, because I was in Chicago to take care of my  
father, I also helped with the Sunday mass at St David's.*

2. Describe the extent to which your absence caused hardships in your ministerial setting:

3. Was your remuneration (salary, car allowance, stole fee) received by you on time?

Yes X No       

4. Was your income sufficient to meet your needs during the sabbatical?

Yes X No       

5. To what extent did you feel "connected" with the Archdiocese during your sabbatical?

*Very connected.*

6. Did you regularly receive Archdiocesan mailings?

Yes X No       

7. To what extent was communication necessitated and executed with and by the Center for Development in Ministry?

*Just one time when I asked about Yugoslavia.*

GENERAL:

1. What was most satisfying to you about your sabbatical?

The most satisfying elements were:

- the experience of genuine fraternity

- the affirmation I received on the psych tests.

They said I was a highly self-actualized person

2. What was least satisfying to you about your sabbatical?

The limitation of just being in a classroom setting.

Also, some presenters had much more to share than time allowed.

3. Any further comments and/or suggestions for the Sabbatical Board and the Center for Development in Ministry?

Thank you for your work & effort

Sincerely

Jim Hoden

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

CHECK REQUEST

PAYABLE TO: James Hoder \$ 268.50  
(PAYEE) (CHECK)

Social Security # \_\_\_\_\_ If payable to  
Individual

MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ RETURN CHECK TO: Professional Fitness Review

<u>DEPT. #</u>	<u>EXPENSE CODE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
<u>10-135</u>		<u>"Specific Expense Categories"</u>	<u>\$ 268.50</u>
_____	_____	_____	<u>\$ _____</u>
_____	_____	_____	<u>\$ _____</u>
_____	_____	_____	<u>\$ _____</u>
_____	_____	_____	<u>\$ _____</u>
_____	_____	_____	<u>\$ _____</u>
_____	_____	_____	<u>\$ _____</u>

REMARKS: Professional Growth Expense - magazines and  
books

DATE: 12-20-93 REQUESTED BY: Rita Mongan

APPROVED BY: Gene S. Sillars

(Revised 7/89)

*Ch. rec'd 1-3-94 # 249276*  
*Ch. sent 1-3-94*



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VICAR FOR PRIESTS

645 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, SUITE 543

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

Off: (312) 642-1837  
Fax: (312) 642-4933

Memo

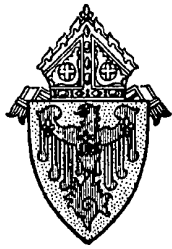
To: Rev. Thomas Paprocki  
From: Rev. Patrick O'Malley  
Date: 2/19/94  
Re: James Hoder

The Cardinal, Fr. Canary and I met with Fr. James Hoder on 2/18/94 to speak about the next step [REDACTED]. The Cardinal told Hoder that his presumption at this time is that Hoder would not be coming back into active ministry and that therefore we needed to begin to plan for some alternate work or ministry in the future. [REDACTED]

Hoder was not ready to discuss this step. Instead, he made a fervent plea for the removal of Canon 1044. He feels that he is psychologically capable of further ministry. It was pointed out to him that he had made this request once before. [REDACTED]

The upshot of the matter is that the Cardinal acknowledged Hoder's right to question the c. 1044 and to seek its removal. So the matter must now go back to the Chancellor, Rev. Thomas Paprocki, for his input. Somehow a way must be found for a review of this decision, which will be acceptable to both Hoder and ourselves. Therefore the outcome of the review of the decision would be binding on both parties.

In a later conversation with Fr. Paprocki, I suggested that the Cardinal request that this case go before the FRBD for a final recommendation. Paprocki seemed to think it would be appropriate.



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March 5, 1994

Rev. James Hoder  
Cardinal Stritch Retreat House  
Post Office Box 455  
Mundelein, Illinois 60060

Dear Jim,

I brought your most recently expressed concerns before the Advisory Board and the Cardinal this past weekend. They agreed that the situation of your being placed under Canon 1044 can be reviewed.

Because you are basically asking for a return to ministry and a removal from the prohibitions of Canon 1044, the Board felt it was appropriate that your request be brought before the Professional Fitness Review Board. The Cardinal agreed.

The next step will be for you to call for an appointment for you and your attorney to come to our office. There we will go over your files and designate which materials will be turned over to the PFR Board. Anything that has to do with treatment for mental health is of course privileged to you and you will have to look that matter over and decide whether and how you want it released. Give me a call when you get a chance and we will set up a time for you to come in.

Faternally yours,

Rev. Patrick O'Malley  
Vicar for Priests

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of the Chancellor



Post Office Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690

(312) 751-8220  
Fax (312) 751-5381

## MEMORANDUM

To: Reverend Patrick J. O'Malley  
Vicar for Priests

cc: Mr. Stephen Sidlowski  
Professional Fitness Review Administrator

From: Reverend Thomas J. Paprocki *TJP*  
Chancellor

Date: March 10, 1994

Re: James Hoder

Pat,

In response to your memo of February 19, 1994 regarding James Hoder, in order to remove the impediment of Canon 1044, it would be necessary for the Cardinal to have further consultation with an expert in the field.

MEMO

TO: Jim Hoder

FROM: Steve Sidlowski

DATE: March 17, 1994

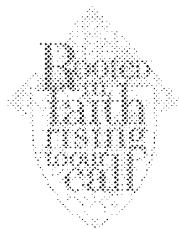
RE: Subscription reimbursement

Jim,

Please forward some type of receipt for magazine subscriptions. I need receipts in order to request a check.

Thank you.

AOC 014869



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO  
CELEBRATING 150 YEARS

Memo

To: Cardinal Bernardin  
From: Rev. Patrick O'Malley *John*  
Date: 5/25/94  
Re: Rev. James Hoder

John Canary and I met with Jim Hoder and Fr. Pat Lagges accompanying him as a Canonical consultant. We met on 5/25/94. We spoke of the Advisory Board's recommendations to you and explained the following points to Hoder:

1 - He will remain under Canon 1044 [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

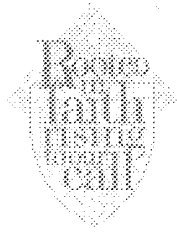
3 - This is an assignment, not a request. Therefore, if he refuses to go, he will be under suspension.

4 - We set a timeline for Hoder to be in [REDACTED] He is to arrive there no later than Monday, June 13.  
[REDACTED]

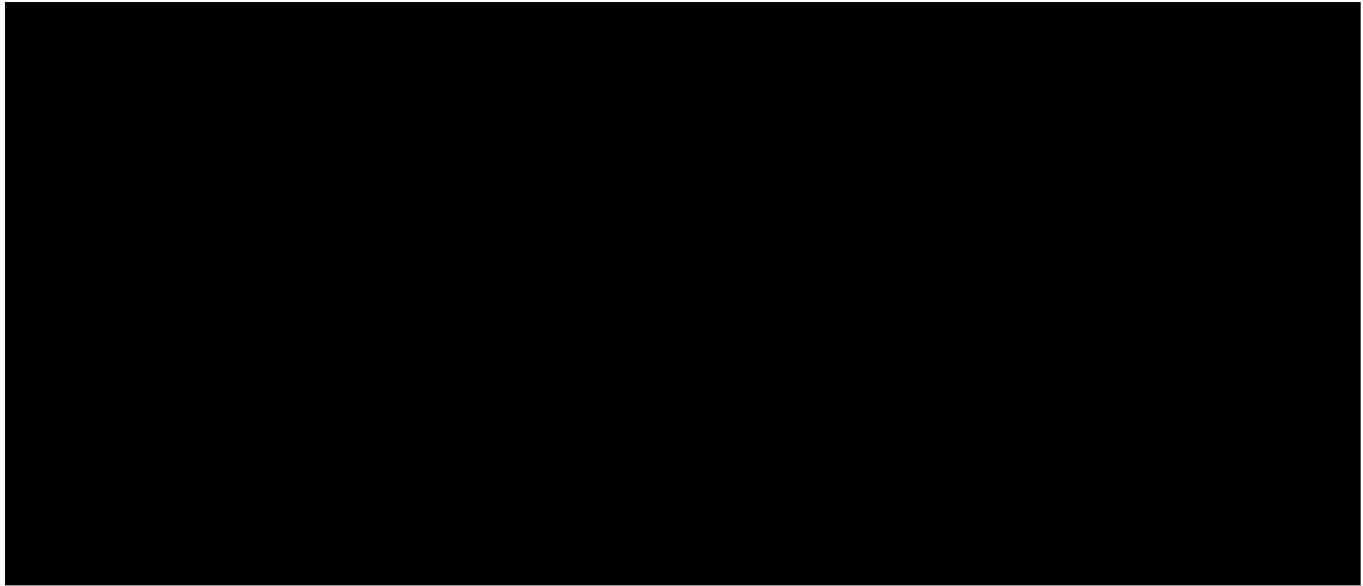
6 - I am gathering the requisite papers together and we will need a letter of recommendation to the [REDACTED] similar to the letter that you sent there for [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

May I suggest the following text:

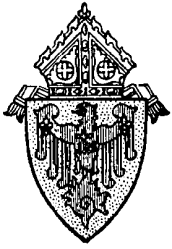
Draft  
[REDACTED]



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO  
CELEBRATING 150 YEARS



Please send the original of this letter to our office and we  
will include it in the papers we need to send [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Thank you much for your attention to this  
matter.



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

645 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, SUITE 543

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

Off: (312) 642-1837

Fax: (312) 642-4933

Memo to File

From: Rev. John Canary

Date: 9/6/94

Re: James Hoder

1 - Bernadette Connolly called today to discuss Jim Hoder's situation. Jim was back in Chicago for the Labor Day weekend. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] He contacted Bernadette to say that he had been in an accident over the weekend, and he was unable to return [REDACTED] until his car was repaired.

Bernadette asked him if he was OK, and he said that he was fine. He had brought the car to a repair shop, and they told him it would be about a week before the repairs could be done.

Bernadette felt uneasy about this situation. She contacted a friend in the police department, and the policeman checked the records and there was no record of an accident. Bernadette found out that Jim's car had been towed by Lincoln Towing over the weekend from a lot on the north side of Chicago. Jim had not mentioned this to Bernadette. She was confused by these events, and she wondered if Jim was telling her the full truth.

I suggested to Bernadette that she call Jim and ask him to come in to see her on Wednesday morning. I suggested that she ask him to bring the police report of the accident. If he is unable to bring a report, I suggested she might share the information that she received from the policeman. Bernadette was hesitant to do this.

Bernadette felt that Jim should return [REDACTED] on Wednesday. I agreed with her. She said she would contact Jim Hoder and ask him to come in and meet with her on Wednesday morning. At that time, she would tell him that he needed to return [REDACTED] on Wednesday.

3 - [REDACTED] called on Tuesday, 9/6/94. He was concerned that Jim Hoder had not returned on time. He said that Jim Hoder called him one hour before he



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was due to arrive back [REDACTED] [REDACTED] said that he was not sure how much to believe of what Jim told him. [REDACTED] said that Jim is a very manipulative person.

I explained to [REDACTED] that Bernadette will meet with Jim tomorrow morning. We had made a decision that Jim would return to [REDACTED] on Wednesday. [REDACTED] said that he would pick Jim up at the airport.

4 - Bernadette called on Wednesday morning. Jim Hoder brought a police report. Bernadette told him that he would have to return [REDACTED] on Wednesday. Jim wanted to drive back in the car he had rented while his own car was being repaired. Bernadette said she thought he should return immediately by plane. She was concerned that otherwise Jim would be coming back to Chicago to get his car. From her conversation with Pat O'Malley, she felt that Jim should stay [REDACTED]

I spoke with Jim and told him that he would have to go back [REDACTED] today by plane. I told him that we would make arrangements to get his car down to [REDACTED] when it was repaired. Jim was not happy with this arrangement, but he was compliant.

To: John Canary

CONFIDENTIAL

9/10/94

From: Bernadette

Tues: Sept 6<sup>th</sup> Tim Holes called at 9:00 am to inform me that he was in a car accident on Monday evening 9/5 at 10pm on Belmont & Western. Tim stated "I was hit by a Mexican woman who was drunk. A Narc Officer passed by and said that the police would not come to the scene of the accident. Therefore I got the information from the other person and drove my car to the police station to file a report. I am going to take my car in for an oil change and then to the repair station."

- 10:30 a.m. - Tim arrived at my office and informed me that he dropped his car off at 2700 So. Halsted and rented a car. His car would be in the shop from 9/6 thru 9/16. He also informed me that he was trying to get a hold of Gulf Insurance Co. to report the accident. As Tim was leaving my office I observed that the rental car had no Chicago stickers nor Illinois plates. Tim stated that Gulf Insurance Co. was located in Texas.

*Spager*  
*10/94*

Care Bernadette  
#38 -

285-1733

11:15 AM - I called a friend of mine in the police department to run a check on Jim's license plate. The following information was reported back to me.

1.) Jim's car was towed on Sunday evening at 9:27 p.m. from 3350 North Broadway. The detective told me that this area was known as a drug dealing place. Jim's car was towed by Lincoln Towing Company. Jim picked his car up at 10:21 p.m. The detective also informed me that no accident report was on file for the accident on 9/5/94.

2) In reviewing 9/4/94 shift change report (see attached), Jim did not call in to inform staff of the changes in his schedule - i.e. car being towed etc. According to the shift change report Jim called in at 6:30 pm from the Music Box Theatre located at 3733 N. Southport and was going to see a film.

3) In reviewing the shift change report on 9/5/94, Jim called in at 7pm from Lincolnwood where he was visiting a friend. Jim never called in to inform staff of his car accident.

3.) In view of the information I had received, I drove out to 2700 E. Halsted to check on Jim's car. Jim's car was there and damage was observed. (rear of the car).

4.) I called J. John Canary to inform him of my concerns regarding this incident.

5.) On 9/7/94 Jim came to my office with a police report. (see attached) Please observe that the police report is incomplete. Also note that the person involved in the report is listed as an Illinois address but with New York (NY) plates. Also, the insurance company is not even listed for the other driver.

6.) At 9:15am I spoke with [REDACTED]. He agreed to pick up Jim at the airport. Also, [REDACTED] informed me that Jim is constantly out doing things which require one to have a lot of extra-cash available. [REDACTED] requested that perhaps I could attend a staffing regarding Jim's behavior.

can't -

In view of all the information obtained, I question the validity of all this information that was reported by Jim. I spoke with Jim on 9/12/94 from St. James and his car should be ready on Friday 9/16/94. I told Jim that I would inform the Vicar about making arrangements about his car. Also, the entire evening of 9/6/94 I had received several prank calls at my home and church. I am not accusing Jim but I certainly question the entire incident. On 9/2/94 I again went to 2700 So. Halsted to inspect Jim's car. On the accident report Jim's address is listed under 3210 So. Union which is located in Chicago and is St. David's parish. However, Jim's vehicle sticker 94-95 is the suburb of Oak Park.



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Off: (312) 642-1837

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Memo to File

From: Rev. Patrick O'Malley

Date: 10/14/94

Re: James Hoder

I visited Jim Hoder [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] on Tuesday, Oct. 11. We discussed the  
following points:

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] We told him  
that he must have a job by October 31 or they will have to  
let him go back to Chicago.

2 - When he comes back to Chicago, his options are limited.  
He will be asked to submit his resignation [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

3 - Hoder said that it is difficult for him to look for a job  
[REDACTED] where he knows nobody. There is some  
validity to this point. Perhaps it is best that he come back  
and look for work in Chicago. I could put him in touch with  
[REDACTED] to give him some advice.

[REDACTED]

P H O N E  M E M O	TO	<i>Pat</i>		DATE	<i>10-14-94</i>	TIME	<i>10:14</i>	AM PM
	FROM	<i>Mr. Hader</i>		AREA CODE				
	OF			NO.				
	M E S S A G E			EXT.				
		<i>He will call tomorrow at about 8:00</i>						
<i>about FAX'd material</i>								
							SIGNED	
PHONED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		CALL BACK <input type="checkbox"/>	RETURNED CALL <input type="checkbox"/>	WANTS TO SEE YOU <input type="checkbox"/>	WILL CALL AGAIN <input type="checkbox"/>	WAS IN <input type="checkbox"/>	URGENT <input type="checkbox"/>	

11-15-94

As of Nov. 1, 1994 I am working at the Marty  
Corporation in Chesterfield Mo as a bilingual  
phone representative for the S.W. Bell Catalog line. (about 20 hours  
a week)  
I also work part time (12 hours a week) in phone  
solicitation for the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra.

Fr. James Hader

NAME	NON-PAROCIAL ASSIGNMENT (Term Dates)	POSITION	PARISH (Date assigned - letter of agreement date)
HODER, JAMES '75	ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE (04/22/92)		



**ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO**

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Fax: (312) 642-4933

Memo to File

From: Rev. Patrick O'Malley

Date: 1/25/95

Re: James Hoder

After several attempts, Fr. Hoder finally was able to get through to me today. I told him that I wished to acknowledge the fact that he is now earning money independently and that I would ask him to work with me to devise some kind of way that he can contribute to offset costs for his stay in St. Louis. I wanted to get Fr. Hoder involved in making some kind of pro-active offer. He agreed to work something up and get it to me as soon as possible. Once I receive it then he and I can discuss it and come to some kind of conclusion. He said he would do that before next week.



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February 8, 1995

Dear Jim,

As John already informed you, I am scheduled on February 18th to appear before the Professional Fitness Review Board. At that time, I have been asked by the Cardinal to share information on your situation. This is in keeping with the Cardinal's promise that all past cases would be reviewed by the Fitness Review Board once it was up and running.

Because your situation was originally handled under our previous procedures (before the Fitness Review Board was organized), the Cardinal and his advisors feel the information ought to be shared **anonymously** with the Board.

With this letter, I am enclosing the full text I will use in my presentation to the Board. There are a few slight changes from the text John gave you. I will have to answer questions, of course, but I will not include substantially more than what this typed text contains.

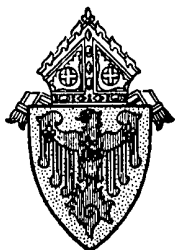
Please read it over carefully. If you have any questions about it or if you wish to make any representations about it, feel perfectly free to get in touch and I will be open for discussion. This is a delicate matter and I want to do it in the fairest way possible.

I do not anticipate any great changes being suggested by the Board. I will of course take their recommendations to the Cardinal for his study and decision. His schedule is so crammed right now that it may take a while to get back to you with the final word. I'll speed the process up as best I can.

I will try to get in touch with you by phone before February 18th to get your reaction. But again feel free to call me if and when you like. John tells me you and he had a good meeting in St. Louis. I keep you in my prayers always.

Faternally yours,

*OKed by JH  
as of 2/14/95 by phone  
Bom*



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

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CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

Off: (312) 642-1837

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2) Fr. B. about 46 in 1995

**Presenting problem:** In July, 1985, an allegation arose dating to 1976 of a sexual relationship with a teen-age boy. [REDACTED]

**Background:** [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Took a leave of absence [REDACTED] 6/81-6/82. There seemed to have been no more recurrence of the above-described behavior.

[REDACTED]  
Fr. B was told to avoid company of minors. Regular monitoring meetings with VP (Ventura). Fr. B continued working in a parish setting.

In 12/86, the VP records that Fr. B was having work troubles (not of a sexual nature) in his parochial assignment. VP asks [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Ventura continued to meet with Fr. B. regularly.

In 3/90, Fr. B's pastor had complaints about Fr.'s ministry and his focus on helping young people. Housekeeper also made some vague allegations of him being "gay", and entertaining young men, some of whom may allegedly have been minors, in his rooms. Pastor made no such allegation, but did feel Fr. B. lacked direction and purpose and was ineffective.



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[REDACTED]

In 8/1/92, [REDACTED], he began monitored part-time hospital chaplaincy. No admission to pediatrics area was allowed. Hospital superiors knew of his problem. [REDACTED]

In 11/'92, another allegation involving inappropriately massaging a young (17-18) man arose from '83-'85 time frame.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Ministry:** As of 11/92, the Archdiocese determined no more ministry possible. A review of this decision was petitioned by Fr. B and, in 4/94, the canonical ruling was reconfirmed. As of 2/95, no more ministry in the future is envisioned.

**Living:** Since withdrawal in 11/91, he had been living in the [REDACTED] Retreat House setting until 5/94. Since then, he resides at a supervised & monitored project out of state seeking to develop skills for other work outside ministry.

**Protocol:** No unsupervised contact with minors, no presenting himself as a priest publicly. No priestly ministry.

**Monitoring:** Under our ongoing direction, he is monitored by the professional staff on site.

Feb. 12, 1995

Dear Pat,

I had a fine meeting with John Canary this past week. I appreciate his care and understanding very much. Time prevented me from bringing up another concern of mine, which has been on my mind often since our meeting here this past October. My concern has to do with this.

Originally, [REDACTED] it was presented as a place to come to any receive job training. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] When this training was completed, I would be returning to Chicago. I have been here six months and I have received no job training, other than the few days that I received at my job. I began working at the beginning of November. In Your recent letter about paying some of the expenses has made it even more urgent for me to have an answer to my question. What is the point of my continuing to stay at [REDACTED] if all I am to do is go looking for work? How long am I going to stay here? And what will determine my returning to Chicago?

If I am not to be back in priestly ministry, yet I am not being asked to resign, then I want, I need clearer direction in terms of job training. If I am to work for the diocese in a non-ministerial job, what job will that be, and how can I prepare for that job now? If I am not going to be given a diocesan job, then why am I working here in St. Louis, when I will then have to begin to search for a job again when I return to Chicago. As I see it, it makes no sense for the diocese to have spent \$12,000+ this past six months for me to receive nothing more than room and board here in St. Louis.

In closing I would like to say that I have learned much about myself this past six months. I have learned that I can go out and find a job. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] But I am very lonely and depressed here. I do not see that as a very healthy state of mind to be in. I miss my family and my friends. I miss Chicago very much. But most of all I miss my freedom. I still want to be a priest. But I know that circumstances beyond anyone's control has made that just about impossible in the United States. It has presented me with a real crisis of faith. I have been hoping, praying for some kind of miracle, I guess. That is why I even agreed to come down here. But soon I feel it will be time to move on to something new. I need to put these extremely painful last three years to some closure. Any help that you can give me in that regard would be very much appreciated.

Yours truly,

*Jim Hickey*



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CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

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Fax: (312) 642-4933

Memo to File

From: Rev. Patrick O'Malley

Date: 2/14/95

Re: Rev. James Hoder

At 7:30 on 2/14/95 I spoke to Hoder by phone regarding the letter he had received from me along with the revised summary which I will be presenting to the Professional Fitness Review Board on 2/18/95.

Hoder agreed with the changes that I suggested from a previous summary which Fr. Canary had brought to him on a recent visit to St. Louis. We went over the paper and he agreed that I could go ahead with it.

Hoder also said that he would be sending me his proposal for the use of the money that he is making at this time vis a vis the expenses that he is incurring.



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Feb. 27, 1995

Dear Jim,

In response to your letter of Feb. 2, may I offer the following observations.

Before going to [REDACTED] you were informed that there was no future in priestly ministry for you in the Archdiocese. Sending you [REDACTED] was meant to help provide an atmosphere in which you would focus on getting gainful employment outside the Church structure. You have shown that you can do that - as you state in your letter.

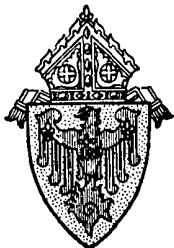
You are now asking for some clarification on what the future holds for you. I can give some you some sense of the future, but to some extent that depends on you and your choices.

1. If you choose to remain a priest which you have a right to do,
  - you will not be in ministry;
  - you will live in a supervised setting with suitable monitoring for the foreseeable future;
  - [REDACTED]
  - besides the room and board mentioned above, the Archdiocese will provide benefits, and a modest stipend, if necessary, for expenses;
  - you will be expected to get a job in the public sector, and you will be expected to pay a reasonable percentage of your living and therapy costs based on your income.

All this could take place either in Chicago or elsewhere, depending on circumstances. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

2. If you choose to resign from priesthood and seek laicization,

- you will be able to live on your own;
- you will not be monitored by the Archdiocese [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



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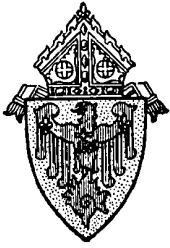
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- with some restrictions on the types of work you might pursue (none with minors), you will be able to seek employment in Chicago or wherever;
- you would owe nothing back to the Archdiocese.

While some aspects of these options may not be easy to consider, the choice is yours to make, Jim. What we have been trying to do is show you that, [REDACTED] you are able to make it on your own and thus make the right choice for your future. You have more confidence now than you had before. Your desire for more autonomy is stronger now than it was before. I hope your options are clearer.

The information in this letter is not the last word by any means. It is the beginning of a dialog. You undoubtedly will have comments, questions, and reactions. Please don't hesitate to be in touch as we pursue this question further.

Fraternally,



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Memo to File

From: Rev. Dan Coughlin

Date: May 18, 1995

Re: James Hoder

With [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]:

Jim Hoder is wasting his time and the money of the Archdiocese. He is very manipulative and keeps spending money on books, cigars, enjoys his meals and movies. He is not showing initiative and expects entitlements. [REDACTED]

Pat O'Malley has made it clear and I should do nothing to create



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a more vague picture for him. They thought Pat O'Malley would not be surprised if Jim is now waiting for 20 year pension. They agree with this perception. He needs a letter, probably from the Cardinal, stating the next steps. In their opinion Jim seems to be a child in an adult body. Looking and blaming others for his life.



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Memo to File

From: Rev. Patrick O'Malley

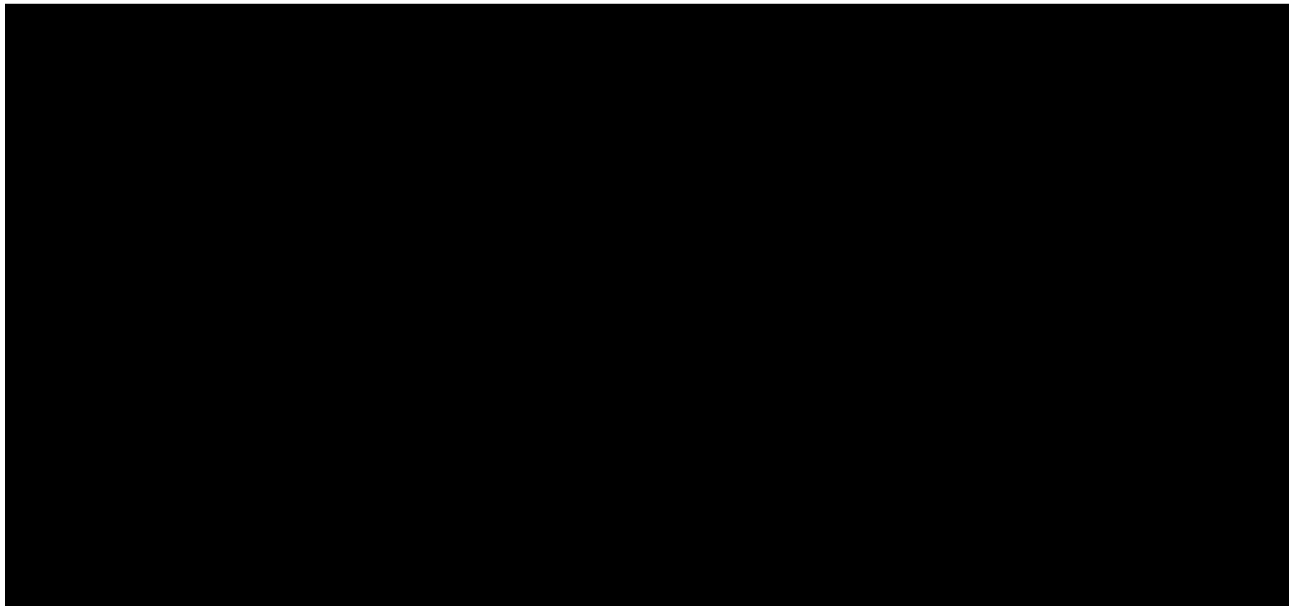
Date: 8/12/95

Re: James Hoder

On 8/9/95 I visited with James Hoder in St. Louis. We had lunch together and talked about his situation.

Hoder has been very frightened now that the time for making his decision is getting closer. He hopes that he will not be a failure. He has avoided decisions most of his life and knows that that kind of escape behavior has to stop.

He is to call me on Saturday, 8/12, to set a final date. I encouraged him to set the date no earlier than 9/23, when I would be returning from my vacation. He agreed that was a good time.





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Hoder did call on 8/12 and set the date for his return to  
Mundelein for the weekend of 9/23. I will notify Fr. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

9/5/95

Fr O'Malley + Fr. Coughlin,

for your review - if any  
changes please let me know.  
we will have to let you know  
the changes listed. Also, I  
think it would be a good idea  
to review all of our protocols.  
What do you think?

Thanks -  
Bernadette

September 23, 1995

INDIVIDUAL SPECIFIC PROTOCOL  
FOR REVEREND JAMES HODER

I have reviewed, understood and agree to all requirements of this protocol:

1. Unaccompanied out-of-house activities include the following:

[REDACTED]  
Visits with family, classmates and friends, social events/  
dining, movies, theaters, shopping, etc. - every day.

2. Attendance at all activities and the specific names, addresses, time, telephone numbers regarding resident's whereabouts must be entered on the individual's itinerary. If for some reason(s) change(s) in individual's schedule has been made, resident is obliged to call in and update a staff member as soon as possible.
3. Resident is accountable for his own time and is required to support his attendance at social events with physical proof/ i.e. movie ticket, receipt from restaurant, etc. Resident is required to call in every four hours unless decided otherwise by the Residence Executive Director and/or designate. The telephone number from where the call has been made can be verified by a staff member. Unlisted, unpublished and mobile telephone numbers will not suffice.

Unsuccessful attempts to reach resident when out-of-house will be followed by writing a memorandum. Such a memorandum will be kept on file [REDACTED] In case of repeated violations copies of original memoranda will be forwarded to the Office of Vicar for Priests.

4. In order to leave boundaries of Chicago metropolitan area, resident must receive permission from the Executive Director or designate.
5. Prior approval for public celebration of Masses and other religious services such as weddings, baptisms, funerals, etc., must be received from the Vicar for Priests or designate.

6. Any contraband materials such as alcohol and pornography will be confiscated and can be done by any staff member. VCR is not permitted at resident's apartment unless permission has been granted by the Executive Director and/or designate.
7. Visitation can only occur at resident's visiting room. All visitors must sign in and out at the Community Room.
8. No one under the age of eighteen is permitted to be at the residence unless prior approval has been received from the Executive Director and/or designate. Meetings with minors, in and out of the residence, can take place only in the presence of an approved companion.
9. Any deviation and/or non-compliance with requirements of this protocol will be addressed by Executive Director and/or designate and may be grounds for modification of currently existing arrangements regarding resident's stay [REDACTED]. Such a modification will be collectively determined by the Vicar for Priests and/or designate in conjunction with the Executive Director [REDACTED]. In case of emergency, any staff member can modify this protocol until an administrative decision can be made by Executive Director and/or designate.
10. In order to change this protocol prior approval must be obtained from the Vicar for Priests and/or designate.
11. This is a working document which can be changed, altered or superseded when there is an indicated need to do so.
12. A copy of this protocol will be sent to the Office of the Vicar for Priests.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Executive Director: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



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Memo to File

From: Rev. Patrick O'Malley

Date: 10/16/95

Re: Rev. James Hoder

On 10/7 I met with James Hoder in the office. He is back from St. Louis and living [REDACTED] in Mundelein under protocol as directed by Bernadette Connolly.

We talked about the need for Hoder to move on at this time. He still finds this a very difficult thing to talk about and is very frightened. It is my feeling however that if he does begin to make steps towards re-ordering his life, then he will not feel so frightened.

In the course of our discussion we covered the following matters:

1. As far as training for the future, Jim would like to look into the possibility of getting some training in library science. He will be talking to the people at Rosary College to find out what it is that he will need, what type of grant/in/aid help is available, and what our help might be in this regard.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

4. [REDACTED]

I told him to start looking for an apartment or to continue the dialog with his brother to see if his brother would allow him to move in there. I encouraged Hoder on this saying he would have a measure of independence much quicker were he to establish a residence.

5. With regard to job counseling, I told him that I would talk to [REDACTED] Company and see if [REDACTED] would be able to help him.



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I told Jim that we needed to have all of this in place no later than six months. Since he returned on Sept. 23, we would hope to have this completed no later than March 23, 1996. Jim was relieved at the fact that we were giving him a few months since he was under the impression that it would only be a few weeks.

Jim asked for permission to go on vacation and I told him to be in touch with Bernadette Connolly, the monitor, to set up whatever protocols are necessary. We tentatively set up a meeting for Oct. 23, but I heard later from Jim that he would not be able to make that. When he returns to Chicago, we will re-set that time.



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Oct. 27, 1995

Rev. James Hoder  
Koenig Hall  
Cardinal Stritch Retreat House  
Mundelein, Ill.

Dear Jim,

I wanted you to have a summary of some of the things we discussed at our last meeting on Oct. 25th.

2. Residence: This was a difficult subject to discuss. It obviously is somewhat symbolic of this whole direction away from priesthood. I think I understand its significance for you.

You have talked to your younger brother about the possibility of living with him. That dialog apparently is still alive. I advised you to start looking for an apartment. You indicated that something in Oak Park might be a preference. I told you that we would be able to help you with initial rent costs and the furnishings.

3. Educational training: You are to call Rosary College around the 30th to see about the courses on library science. You will find out what kind of monies are available in grants and how we might help in this regard. You said you are currently enrolled for computer classes in a local college.

4. Finances: You have made plans to consult a financial advisor about your own situation.

5. Job procurement: I gave you the name and number of [REDACTED] who has agreed to see you. Please call him as soon as possible. And may I remind you again to dress up nicely for this meeting since it will be a formal business setting from the outset.



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6. Health insurance: I told you that we would certainly build a health insurance packet [REDACTED]

7. Legal representation: I reminded you to be in touch with Pat Reardon at [REDACTED] who will help you through this process.

[REDACTED]

You and I will meet again on Friday, November 3 at 11:30 to go over what progress has been made.

Again I encourage you to use the energy you seem to have at this time to take care of the matters discussed above. Especially try to accomplish the hardest ones first.

Fraternally yours,

Rev. Patrick O'Malley  
Vicar for Priests



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November 3, 1995

Dear [REDACTED]

I received your letter concerning Jim Hoder. First off, I want to thank you for the letter. And I want to thank you for the support and encouragement that you express in that letter for Jim. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I know you guys have a very difficult life at this time. And yet somehow you seem to persevere, which is a tribute to your own strength and the grace of God.

With regard to Jim, his situation is a complicated one. There are many aspects of that situation that we need to consider. There is of course, the good of the priest himself, which is very important. But there is also the wider good of the Church. I know you understand the complications, probably better than most. In the present climate, we do not think there is a place for Jim in the active ministry. I know that is very difficult for him and others to hear, but it seems to be one of those truths that needs to be faced. That does not mean that he is a bad person. I do not believe that.

We are trying to work diligently and sensitively with him during this transition to make sure that he is treated justly. It will be painful, as you know. But I think, both for his sake and for the Church's sake, it should go forward. I know that I do want to help him, but I also acknowledge that the help we offer Jim may be seen as really pushing him further away. Obviously he needs your ongoing support and prayers.

Again, thank you for your letter. I'm sorry that my response cannot answer adequately all your concerns. I will keep Jim and you in my prayers and I ask the same from you.

Faternally yours,

Rev. Patrick O'Malley  
Vicar for Priests



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Memo

To: Mr. James Serritella  
From: Rev. Patrick O'Malley  
Date: 11/4/95  
Re: Rev. James Hoder

On 11/3/95 I met with Hoder and his attorney, Patrick Reardon.

1. Hoder is seeing [REDACTED] He is getting help through [REDACTED] who is suggesting that Jim focus on getting a job rather than further education at this time. Reardon and Hoder may have other thoughts in this regard.

2. Hoder is voluntarily taking a computer class at Triton.

3. Hoder has made inquiries at Rosary about the requirements necessary for a degree in library science. There would be course work required, but there is the possibility of available grants to help pay for the courses. Reardon and Hoder will have to discuss whether it is more important to get this training at this time or to get a job. That discussion is ongoing.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

6. Hoder has still not pursued an independent residence, but I have encouraged him to begin to do that.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



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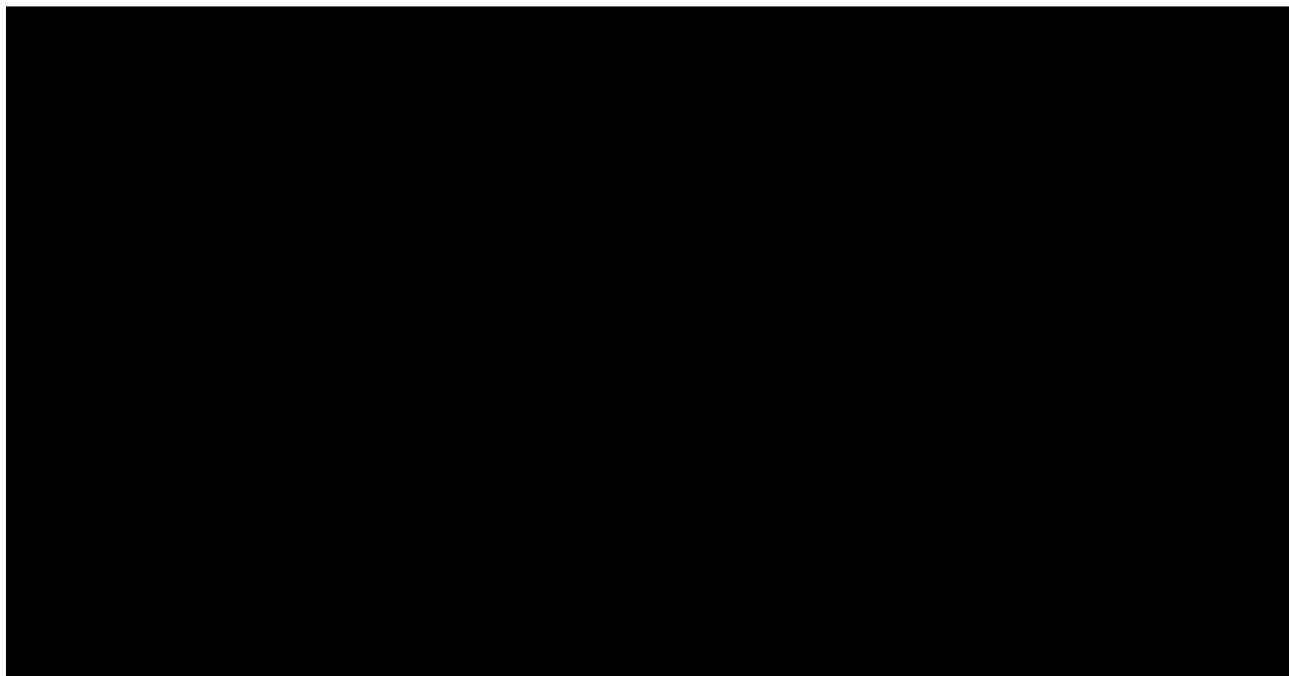
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# Cardinal Stritch Retreat House

December 14, 1995

Ms. Bernadette Connelly  
Professional Fitness Review Board  
P.O. Box #1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690

Priests assigned here for the month of November:

[REDACTED]	
[REDACTED]	
Rev. John Hoder.....	425.00
[REDACTED]	
[REDACTED]	

THANK YOU

# Cardinal Stritch Retreat House

January 5, 1996

Ms. Bernadette Connelly  
Professional Fitness Review Board  
P.O. Box #1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690

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Priests assigned here for the month of December:

[REDACTED]

Rev. Ken Hoder.....	425.00
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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

THANK YOU

P. O. Box 455 1000 E. Maple Mundelein, IL 60060-0455

(708) 566-6060 FAX (708) 566-6082

AOC 014906

# Cardinal Stritch Retreat House

February 2, 1996

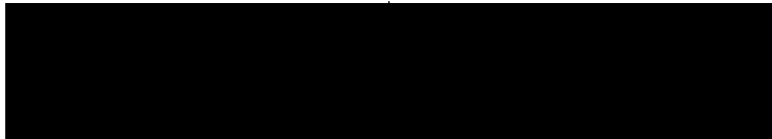
Ms. Bernadette Connelly  
Professional Fitness Review Board  
P.O. Box #1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690

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Priests assigned here for the month of January:



Rev. Ken Hoder..... 425.00



THANK YOU

Cardinal Stritch Retreat House

March 7, 1996

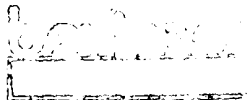
Ms. Bernadette Connelly  
Professional Fitness Review Board  
P.O. Box #1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690

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Priests assigned here for the month of February:

  
Rev. ~~Ken~~<sup>Jim</sup> Hoder..... 425.00  


THANK YOU



P.O.Box 455 • Mundelein, Illinois 60060-0455 • Tel 847-566-6060 Fax 847-566-6082

AOC 014908

Hader  
2/3/19/94

It was 2 a.m., the usual time for my sadness and anger to visit me. I had been tossing and turning for an hour. I was angry at myself, at God, at the world. Finally I cried out in my desperation, "God, if You don't save me from this, I am not going to serve you any longer as Your priest!"

What was the cause of my deep, dark despair? What was driving me to give up my priestly vocation, my most precious possession? Was it alcohol? Sex? Gambling? The work? no, it was none of these. Rather it was something that people make jokes about. They make light of. It was the fact of my obesity.

At this <sup>AT</sup> point in my life, I was more overweight than I had ever <sup>before</sup> been in my life. I do not know how much I weighed. I gave up wanting to know when my scale (up to 300lbs) no longer registered an accurate weight. I used to joke with another priest (who died as a result of alcoholism) that outside my bathroom there was this pile of destroyed scales, victims of my not so amusing anger. We would then laugh. At the time it seemed funny. It isn't now.


Obesity, overweight, pleasingly plump, girthful, fat, and the latest adjective, morbidly obese, they all applied to me. It didn't seem right. It certainly wasn't fair. How could this have happened to one of God's priests? And what was I going to do about it? I had no idea. And not having any idea made me desperate. Each day I would wake up, promising myself, this is the day I am really going to begin my diet. I'm really going to do it. Yes, I will.


But I didn't. I couldn't. I would calculate the number of years I would need to diet, and I would despair. By noon time I would be in my crazy eating cycle. By evening I would again hate myself. I had failed again. I was a failure.

I would pray to God for strength to diet, to lose weight. "Give me the strength I had in 1963, age 14, when I lost 60 lbs, Lord. (Gained back.) Give me the strength I had in 1981, when I lost 80 lbs. (Gained back, <sup>AND</sup> ~~had~~ more) But I found no strength. I had no strength. This weight problem was stronger than I was, and I was getting weaker, day by day, and it was getting stronger. I was beginning to believe that only a death by cancer or some other debilitating disease was the only way I would solve my weight problem. I even imagined the pall bearers struggling with my coffin. God, I feel sorry for them. Maybe cremation.

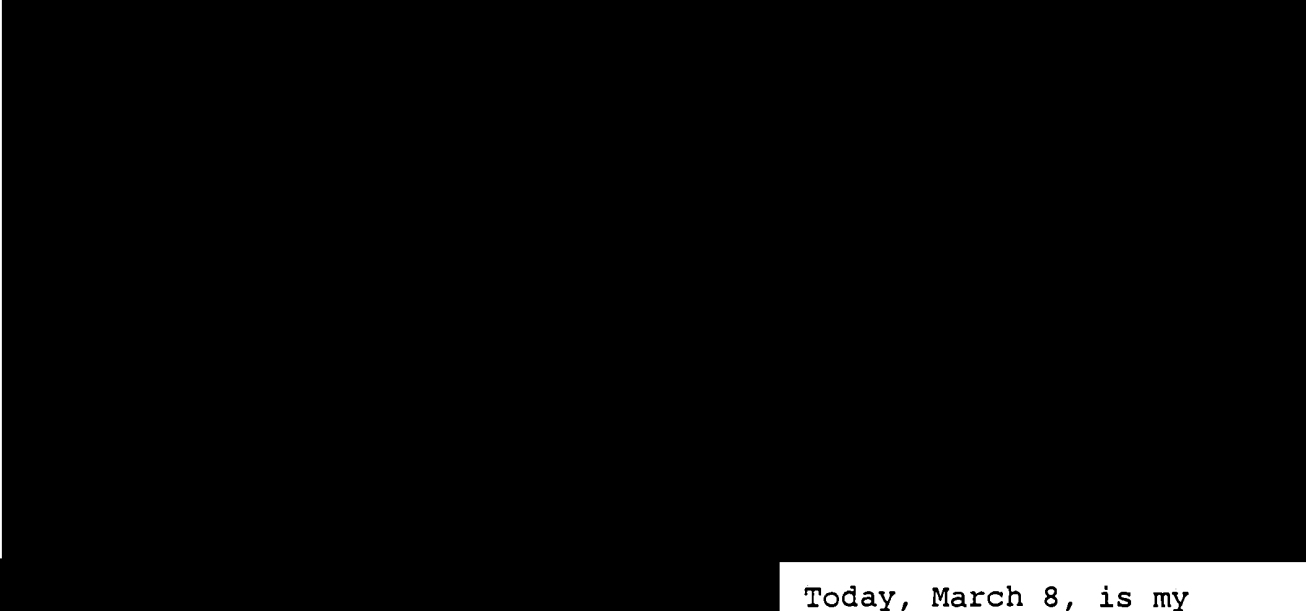
If I am painting a dark picture for you, it is because it was dark for me. It was black as a night without a hint of moonlight. Think of your blackest hour, stare at it, in the honesty that only comes to us at 2 in the morning, honesty and feelings that can no longer be denied. That was me.

But just when it seemed that death would be a preferable blessing, when all I knew was my failure, my grief, my despair, in a meeting with Pat O'Malley ~~about another matter~~, a by-the-way moment of grace happened



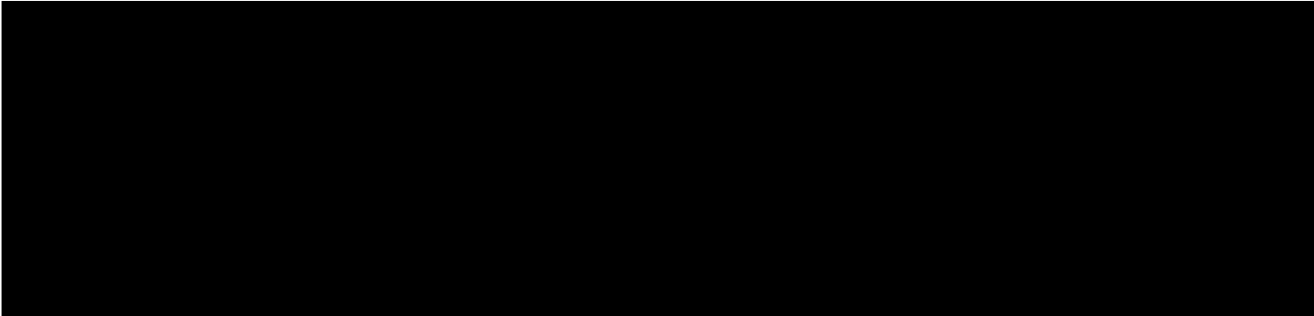


I have to admit that I believed I knew everything there was to know about my eating disorder-everything except how to solve it. They say that Thomas Edison knew 10,000 <sup>not</sup> ways to make a light bulb, and I knew as many ways not to deal with my eating disorder. But I went, and I sat, and I listened, and my eyes were opened.



Today, March 8, is my 3 month anniversary of following a food plan, and following the 12 step recovery program. I cannot find words to express the gratitude and joy and serenity that I am beginning to feel in my life after 40+ years of crazy, out of control eating. I say 40 years because even before I began grade school at Presentation I was having problems with food. Forty years, echoes of Exodus, the chosen people in the desert. 1954 to 1995- it was a long, long time.

To close, I know that there are other priests out there who are smiling, joking, jovial in public about their eating disorder. I was that way myself. I also know that there can be an incredible rage inside, that only another compulsive overeater like me can understand. YOU may have lost hope for an answer. YOU may have given in to despair about overcoming this crippling disease. But I want to tell you that there is hope. I have found it for myself. There is a way to return from the early grave you may be heading for. There is recovery, a day at a time, if you choose, from our life-long eating disorder. "If today you hear His voice, in my words, in my story, harden not your hearts!" Call. There is help.



*Jim Stoker*

March 30, 1996

Dear Jim,

As I told you in our conversation, this is the process for petitioning to get out from under Canon 1044:

1. Write a formal letter to the Cardinal (copies to Bishop Goedert and Vicars for Priests) asking him to lift the restrictions you are presently facing under Canon 1044.
2. Mention that you would like to be able to meet face to face (if you indeed want to do so) with whomever he would designate to make recommendations on your request.
3. Usually, the Cardinal will ask the advice of the advisory board (Professional Responsibility Administrative Committee - PCAC). [REDACTED]
4. The Board makes the recommendation to the Cardinal. He has the ultimate say.

Jim, I do want you to get a fair hearing, but you should also realize that this appeal may not be responded to positively. If it is not, then you and I need to get on with our planning for the near future. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] You have undoubtedly made progress and have a healthier outlook at this time, so that end was accomplished. Whether it will result in changing our original plan, I cannot say. But please don't get your hopes too high. You don't need more disappointments. Hope you get that job driving.

Faternally,

# Cardinal Stritch Retreat House

April 11, 1996

Ms. Bernadette Connelly  
Professional Fitness Review Board  
P.O. Box # 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690

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Priests assigned here for the month of March:

[REDACTED]

Rev. Ken Hoder..... 425.00

[REDACTED]

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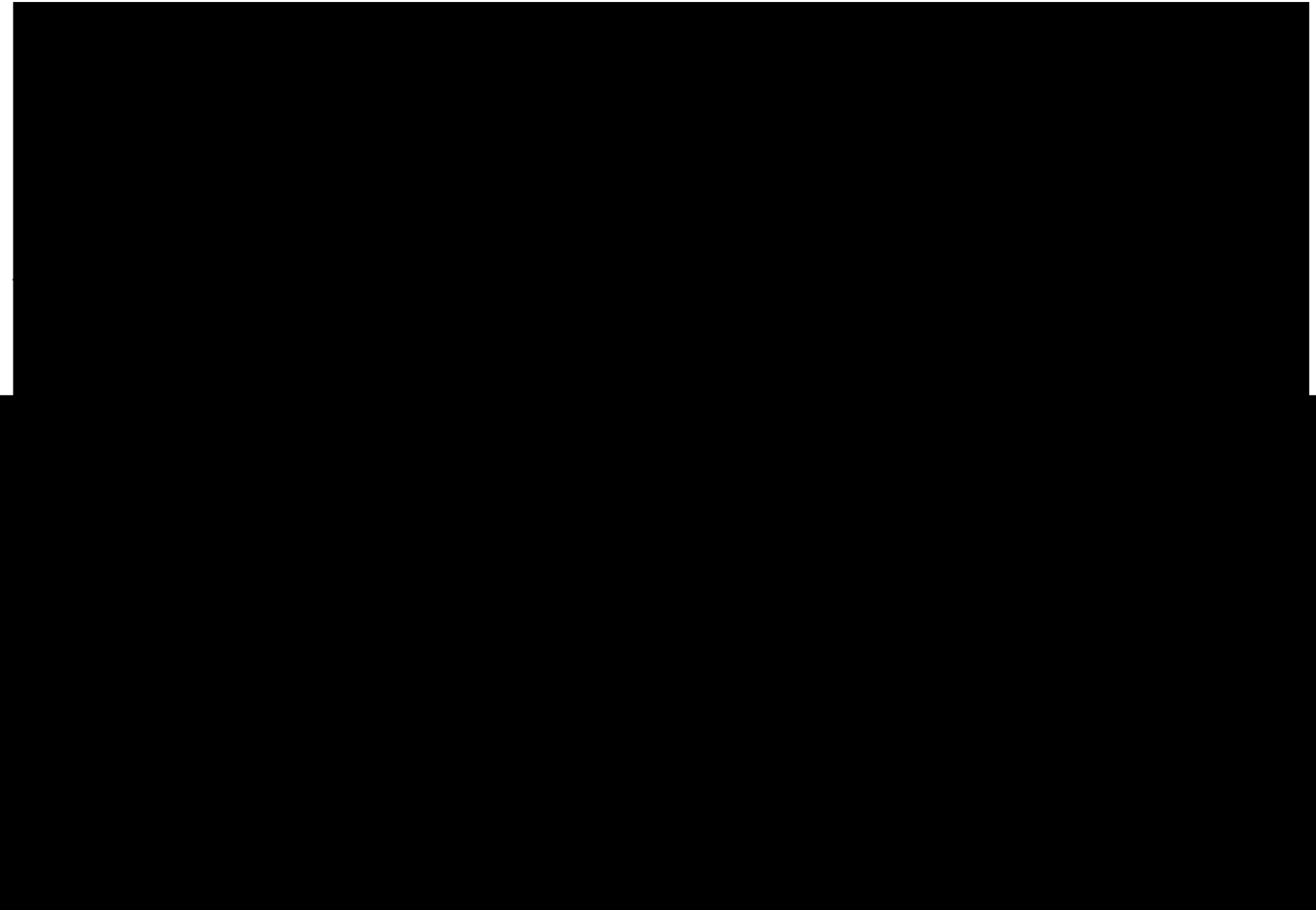
[REDACTED]

THANK YOU

April 17, 1996

Dear Cardinal Bernardin,

I would like you to reconsider and to remove the canonical penalty that you placed on me in December 1992. I am currently living at the Stritch retreat house and am not involved in ministry.

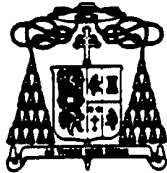


The last review of my status was in April 1994. Since that time I have made progress in the issues that have caused the diocese and myself concern in the past. I would also ask that a representative be appointed with whom I could meet in order to work out the process and the details for this review. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours truly,

*Rev. James Hocker*

AOC 014915



MEMO from

CARDINAL BERNARDIN

To: Fr. Coughlan Date: 4/18/96

For: ☐ Information  
☒ Comment  
☐ Approval  
☐ Signature  
☒ Please draft a reply  
for my signature.  
☐ Please reply in your  
own name.  
☐ Please return  
☐ Per conversation

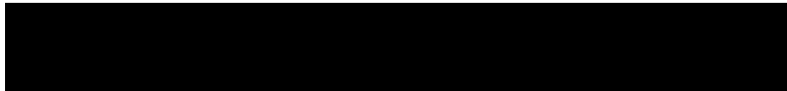
Remarks: If you want to  
Speak with me about  
these two, please call.  
The Hoder letter should  
be discussed with Tom  
Poprocki because of the canonical  
dimension.

# Cardinal Stritch Retreat House

May 14, 1996

Ms. Bernadette Connelly  
Professional Fitness Review Board  
P.P. Box #1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690

-----  
Priests assigned here for the month of April



Rev. Ken Hoder..... 425.00



THANK YOU



P.O.Box 455 • Mundelein, Illinois 60060-0455 • Tel 847-566-6060 Fax 847-566-6082

AOC 014917

Memo to File (hod53)  
From: Rev. Patrick O'Malley  
Date: 5/18/96  
Re: James Hoder

On 5/18/96 I met with James Hoder and his attorney, Patrick Reardon, to discuss the next step in Hoder's petition to get out from Canon 1044.

[REDACTED]

I also told Jim he should not have high expectations of being allowed back in ministry at all. I told him that the Cardinal must weigh [REDACTED] other factors as well, namely, the past record of Hoder, his compulsivity, his failure to observe proper boundaries in his ministry.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

# Cardinal Stritch Retreat House

June 6, 1996

Ms. Bernadette Connelly  
Professional Fitness Review Board  
P.O. Box #1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690

---

Priests assigned here for the month of May

  
Rev. Ken Hoder..... 425.00  


  
THANK YOU

P.O.Box 455 • Mundelein, Illinois 60060-0455 • Tel 847-566-6060 Fax 847-566-6082

AOC 014919

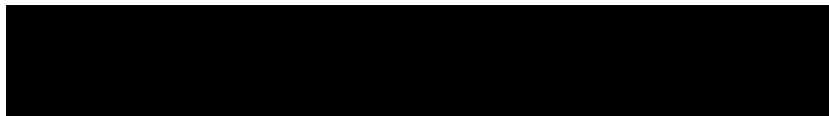
# Cardinal Stritch Retreat House

July 25, 1996

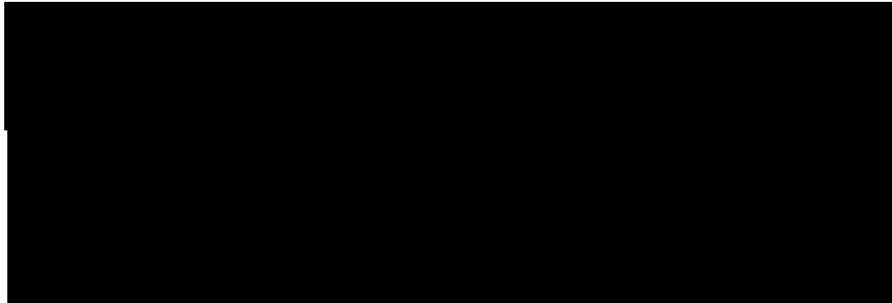
Ms. Bernadette Connelly  
Professional Fitness Review Board  
P.O. Box #1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690

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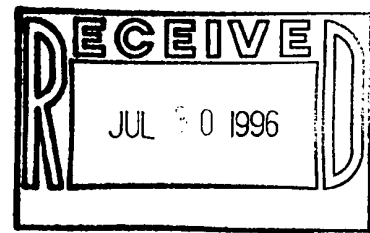
Priests assigned here for the month of June



Rev. Ken Hoder..... 425.00



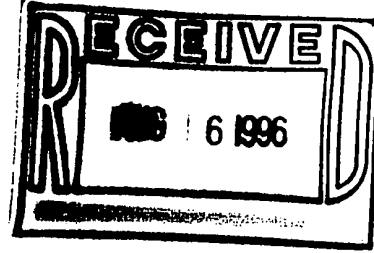
THANK YOU



P.O.Box 455 • Mundelein, Illinois 60060-0455 • Tel 847-566-6060 Fax 847-566-6082

AOC 014920

# Cardinal Stritch Retreat House



August 6, 1996

Ms. Bernadette Connelly  
Professional Fitness Review Board  
P.O. Box #1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690

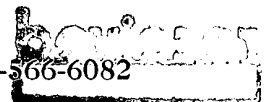
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Priests assigned here for the month of July

[REDACTED]  
1/2 Rev. Ken Hoder..... 425.00  
[REDACTED]

THANK YOU

P.O.Box 455 • Mundelein, Illinois 60060-0455 • Tel 847-566-6060 Fax 847-566-6082



AOC 014921

# Cardinal Stritch Retreat House

September 6, 1996

Ms. Bernadette Connelly  
Professional Fitness Review Board  
P.O. Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690

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Priests assigned here for the month of August

[REDACTED]  
Rev. Ken Hoder..... 425.00  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] 1,000.00  
[REDACTED]

THANK YOU

P.O.Box 455 • Mundelein, Illinois 60060-0455 • Tel 847-566-6060 Fax 847-566-6082

AOC 014922

# Cardinal Stritch Retreat House

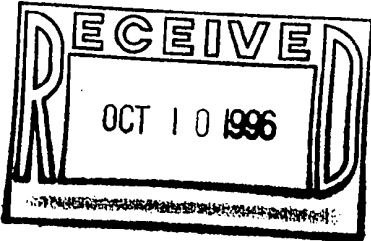
October 4, 1996

Ms. Bernadette Connelly  
Professional Fitness Review Board  
P.O. Box #1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690

-----  
Priests assigned here for the month of September

[REDACTED]  
Rev. Ken Hoder..... 425.00  
[REDACTED]

THANK YOU



November 4, 1996

Ms. Bernadette Connelly  
Professional Fitness Review Board  
P.O. Box #1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690

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Priests Assigned here for the month of October

[REDACTED]  
Rev. Ken Hoder..... 425.00  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

THANK YOU

# Cardinal Stritch Retreat House

December 5, 1996

Ms. Bernadette Connelly  
Professional Fitness Review Board  
P.O. Box #1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690

---

Priests assigned here for the month of November

[REDACTED]  
Rev. Ken Hoder..... 425.00  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

THANK YOU

P.O.Box 455 • Mundelein, Illinois 60060-0455 • Tel 847-566-6060 Fax 847-566-6082

AOC 014925

January 16, 1997

Ms. Bernadette Connelly  
Professional Fitness Review Board  
P.O. Box #1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690

Priests assigned here for the month of December

[REDACTED]	
Rev. Ken Hoder.....	425.00
[REDACTED]	
[REDACTED]	

THANK YOU



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

645 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, SUITE 543

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

Off: (312) 642-1837

Fax: (312) 642-4933

January 28, 1997

Rev. James Hoder



Dear Jim,

When you and Pat Reardon and I met on January 14th, I told you that this office would pay your tuition for the present term at the Adler School of Professional Psychology. I have since received the bill which you forwarded to me and it will be paid in the near future.

With regard to your request that this office pay your tuition for nine hours next term, I told you that I would have to bring that request before our advisory board (the Professional Conduct Administrative Committee). I made the proposal at yesterday meeting where it was rejected. The committee feels very strongly that a great deal of money has already been expended in an attempt to help you "get on your feet." The committee cited all the therapy and the training in tele-



If you have any questions, please give me a call.

Sincerely,

Rev. Lawrence McBrady  
Vicar for Priests

cc: Mr. Patrick Reardon

221 N. LA SALLE  
CHICAGO, IL 60601

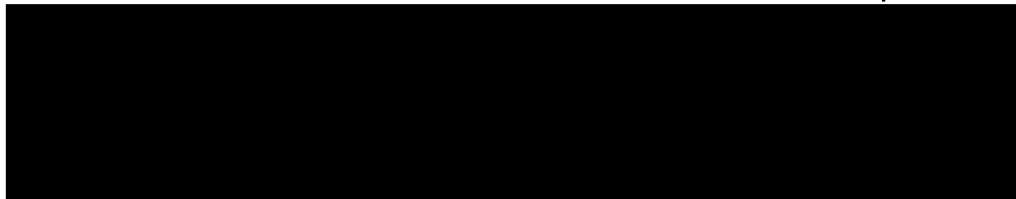
# Stritch Retreat House

February 7, 1997

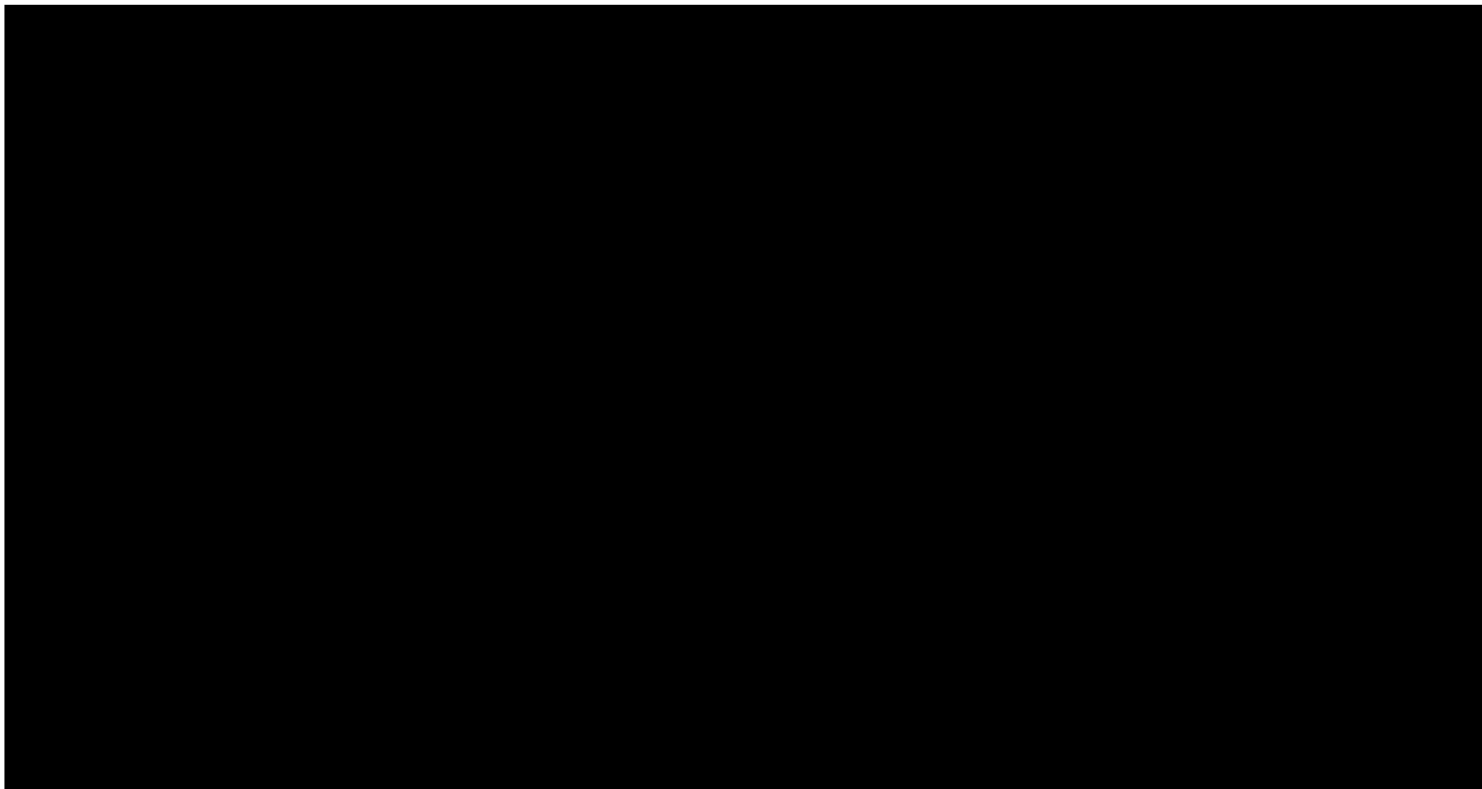
Ms. Bernadette Connelly  
Professional Fitness Review Board  
P.O. Box #1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690

-----  
Priests assigned here for the month of January

	
Rev. Ken Hoder.....	425,00



THANK YOU



Cardinal Stritch Retreat House

March 4, 1997

Ms. Bernadette Connelly  
Professional Fitness Review Board  
P.O. Box #1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690

-----  
Priests assigned here for the month of February

*Jim*

Rev. ~~Don~~ Hoder..... 425.00

THANK YOU

P.O.Box 455 • Mundelein, Illinois 60060-0455 • Tel 847-566-6060 Fax 847-566-6082

AOC 014929

# Cardinal Stritch Retreat House

April 1, 1997

Ms. Bernadette Connelly  
Professional Fitness Review Board  
P.O. Box #1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690

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Priests assigned here for the month of March

  
Rev. Jim Hoder..... 425.00  


THANK YOU

P.O.Box 455 • Mundelein, Illinois 60060-0455 • Tel 847-566-6060 Fax 847-566-6082

AOC 014930

May 1, 1997

Ms. Bernadette Connelly  
Professional Fitness Review Board  
P.O. Box #1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690

Priests assigned here for the month of April

[Redacted]

Rev. Jim Hoder..... 425.00

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

A G E N D A

Meeting: #73rd - Fifteenth Board  
Date: May 23, 1997  
Place: Priests' Placement Board

**Present:** Rev.: Jeremiah M. Boland, John M. Collins, Kevin J. Feeney,  
Joseph J. Kinane, Robert E. McLaughlin, Steven W. Patte,  
John S. Siemianowski.

**Absent:** Msgr. Kenneth J. Velo.

---

I Opening Prayer: Rev. John M. Collins TIME: \_\_\_\_\_

II Acceptance of Minutes: VOTE: \_\_\_\_\_

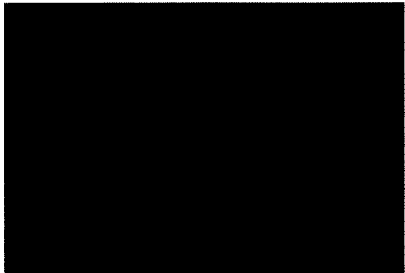
III Reports: (See Attached Sheet)

IV Acceptance of Agenda: VOTE: \_\_\_\_\_

V Business:

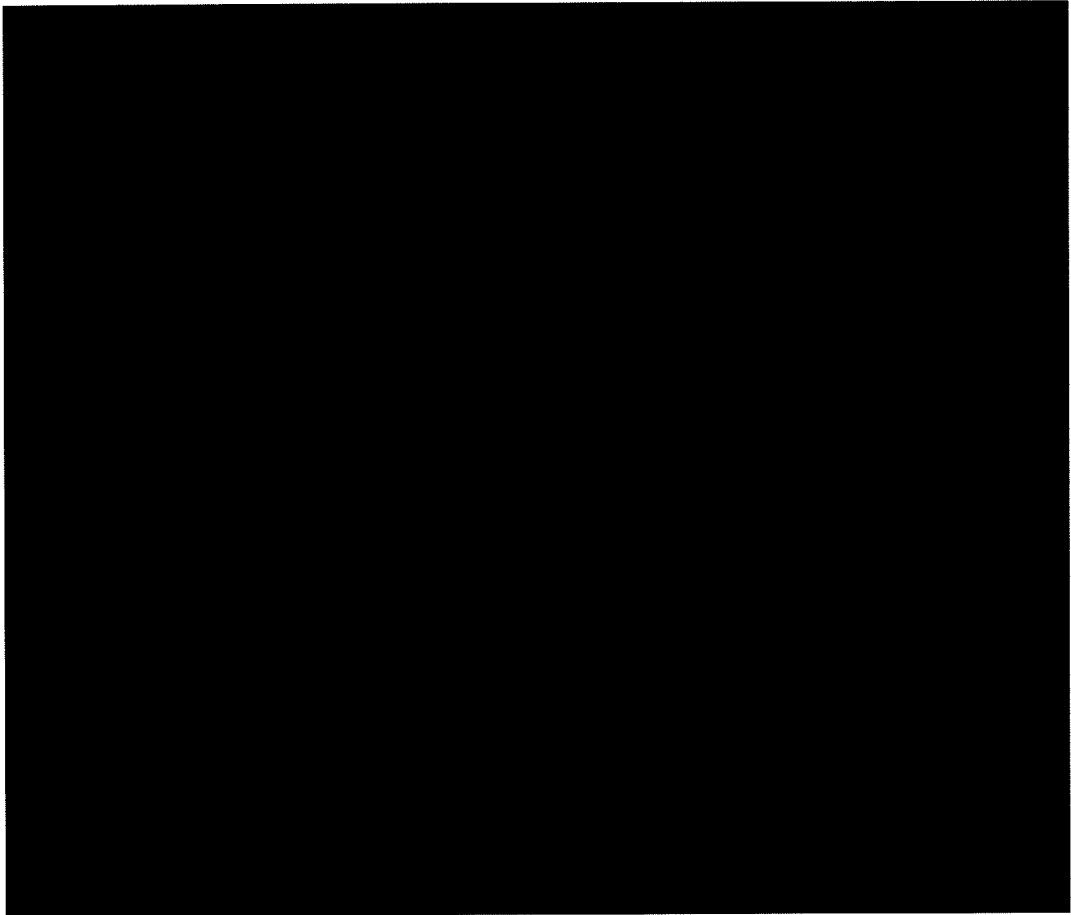


PRIESTS:



9. James Hoder '75





9. James Hoder '75: Jim will resign from the priesthood within the week.



# Cardinal Stritch Retreat House

June 5, 1997

Ms. Bernadette Connelly  
Professional Fitness Review Board  
P.O. Box #1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690

---

Priests assigned here during May

  
Rev. Jim Hoder..... 425.00  
  


THANK YOU

P.O.Box 455 • Mundelein, Illinois 60060-0455 • Tel 847-566-6060 Fax 847-566-6082

AOC 014934

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of the Chancellor



August 26, 1997

Post Office Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690

(312) 751-8230  
Fax (312) 751-5381

James Hoder

Dear Jim:

The Office of the Chancellor has been informed that you have resigned officially from the active ministry as a priest and that Archbishop George has accepted your resignation. As you leave the active ministry, you may have some questions about the practical implications of your situation.

This change of status means that your faculties to minister as a priest are withdrawn. You are no longer authorized to exercise priestly ministry, to present yourself as a priest or as an official representative of the Archdiocese of Chicago or any component of it, or to wear clerical garb.

Your participation in the life of the Church is to be that of a Catholic layman, except that there are certain restrictions about Church employment and ministry for resigned priests. Hence, any ministerial celebration of the Sacraments or sacramentals is excluded. Of course, the Sacrament of Penance may be administered to one in danger of death. You are asked to consult with the Office of the Vicar for Priests or the Office of the Chancellor regarding the appropriateness of any other ministries in the Church.

Despite the official tone of this letter, please be assured of the gratitude of the Archdiocese for your service to this local Church.

In order to change your canonical status from cleric to layperson, you will need to seek dispensation from the obligations of priesthood through laicization. You can initiate such a process by speaking with Father Emmett Gavin, O.Carm., Vice-Chancellor. He can be reached at 312-751-8211. He is assisted in preparing these petitions by Father Robert J. Geisinger, S.J., Associate Chancellor. Contrary to some impressions, the Holy See is responding favorably to certain petitions. I am confident that Father Gavin and Father Geisinger will do all that they can to assist you with this process. If there are any further questions concerning your status, please do not hesitate to contact Father Gavin, Father Geisinger or myself.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Thomas J. Paprocki".

Reverend Thomas J. Paprocki  
Chancellor

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Emmett Gavin, O.Carm.". To the left of the signature is a faint circular stamp.

Vice-Chancellor

AOC 014935

Letter of Father Paprocki  
to James Hoder  
August 26, 1997  
Page 2

bc: Most Reverend Raymond E. Goedert, Vicar General  
Reverend R. Peter Bowman, Moderator of the Curia/Vicar for Administration  
Reverend Emmett J. Gavin, O. Carm., Vice-Chancellor  
Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, Vicar for Priests  
Reverend Lawrence P. McBrady, Vicar for Priests  
Reverend Jeremiah M. Boland, Diocesan Priests' Placement Board



**ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO**

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

645 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, SUITE 543

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

Off: (312) 642-1837

Fax: (312) 642-4933

**MEMO**

**TO:** Fr. T. Paprocki  
**FROM:** Fr. L. McBrady  
**RE:** James Hoder  
**DATE:** August 26, 1997

This is to notify you officially that James Hoder has resigned from the active ministry. While his resignation was effective on May 24, 1997, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] This would be an appropriate time for him to receive your letter instructing him on his status as a resigned priest.

Jim's current address is:

[REDACTED]

Archdiocese of Chicago Priest Vitae Card

James Allen Hoder      Born: [REDACTED]      Ordained: 05/14/1975      Died:      Ethnicity:

---

No Image  
Attached

Assignment	Position	Begin Date	End Date
St. Ita Parish (Broadway St.)	Associate Pastor	05/23/1975	06/11/1982
Assumption BVM Parish (California Ave.)	Associate Pastor	06/11/1982	06/01/1985
St. David Parish (Union St.)	Associate Pastor	06/01/1985	07/01/1990
	Sabbatical	07/01/1990	12/31/1990
St. Joseph Parish (Hermitage Ave.)	Associate Pastor	08/23/1991	11/14/1991
	Resigned	08/27/1997	

---

Extraordinary  
Appointments:

REPORTS: (08/29/97)

1. James Hoder '75: Thomas Paprocki [Chancellor] has written to Jim informing him what his change in status (resigned from active ministry) means. His faculties to minister as a priest are withdrawn, he is no longer authorized to exercise priestly ministry, to present himself as a priest or as an official representative of the Archdiocese of Chicago or any component of it, or to wear clerical garb. There are certain restrictions about Church employment and ministry for resigned priests. Any ministerial celebration of the Sacraments or sacramentals is excluded. Jim is asked to consult with the Office of the Vicar for Priests or the Office of the Chancellor regarding the appropriateness of any other ministries in the Church. And that he can contact Fr. Emmett Gavin if he wishes to pursue laicization.



## MINUTES

Meeting: #82nd - Fifteenth Board

**Date:** August 29, 1997

**Place:** Priests' Placement Board/Pastoral Center

**Present:**

Reverends: Jeremiah M. Boland, Kevin J. Feeney, John M. Collins,  
Joseph J. Kinane, Robert E. McLaughlin,  
John S. Siemianowski, Msgr. Kenneth J. Velo.

**Absent:** Rev. Steven W. Patte

I **Opening Prayer:** Rev. John Siemianowski 10:10 A.M.

II **Acceptance of Minutes:** Accepted 6 - 0 - 1

III **Reports:**

1. **James Hoder '75:** Thomas Paprocki [Chancellor] has written to Jim informing him what his change in status (resigned from active ministry) means. His faculties to minister as a priest are withdrawn, he is no longer authorized to exercise priestly ministry, to present himself as a priest or as an official representative of the Archdiocese of Chicago or any component of it, or to wear clerical garb. There are certain restrictions about Church employment and ministry for resigned priests. Any ministerial celebration of the Sacraments or sacramentals is excluded. Jim is asked to consult with the Office of the Vicar for Priests or the Office of the Chancellor regarding the appropriateness of any other ministries in the Church. And that he can contact Fr. Emmett Gavin if he wishes to pursue laicization.

Memo to the file  
From: Larry McBrady  
Re: Jim Hoder  
Date: 1/8/98

This afternoon I received a call from Jim Hoder. Jim recently attempted to use his insurance card and was turned down. Upon checking with Gallagher-Bassett, he was told he had been removed from the program effective 12-1-98. I told Jim this was not correct and that some error had occurred. I assured Jim he would be reinstated. [REDACTED]

Jim pointed out that he has lost a full month of coverage. He asked to be extended for one additional month. I agreed to extend coverage to 6-15-99. After that time, he has the option of buying into our program for an additional six months. [REDACTED]

I contacted Alex Becker. He thinks he may have removed Jim Hoder's name even though he had not been given any authorization to do so. Alex will see to it that he is immediately reinstated.



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

645 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, SUITE 543

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

Off: (312) 642-1837

Fax: (312) 642-4933

April 19, 1999

James Hoder



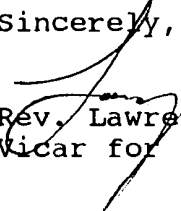
Dear Jim,

I hope things are going well for you.

As you may recall, we extended your insurance for an additional month after it was learned that you were accidentally deleted from our list. I am writing to remind you that, per our agreement of January 8, 1999, your health insurance coverage will be terminated on **June 15, 1999**. You have the option of extending your coverage for an additional six months by paying to have the coverage continued. Please let me know if you are interested in the extension. If I do not hear from you I will assume you have made plans for your own coverage in some other program after June 15th.

If there is any way I can be of help to you, please let me know.

Sincerely,

  
Rev. Lawrence P. McBrady  
Vicar for Priests

VICAR FOR PRIESTS OFFICE

ACTION SHEET

ACTION TO BE TAKEN: KEEPING  
TRACK OF JIM HODER

DATE OF REQUEST: 5/27/99  
NEEDED BY: LARRY

WE NEED TO MAKE SURE THAT WE KEEP  
JIM ON HEALTH & CAR INSURANCE.

FIRST, A STARTING DATE STILL HAS  
TO BE DETERMINED.

SECOND, HE GETS SIX MONTHS OF CAR  
INSURANCE AND TWO YEARS OF HEALTH INSURANCE.  
HE WILL DEFINITELY NEED REMINDERS WHEN  
EACH IS ABOUT TO LAPSE.

- ☐ URGENT PRIORITY/ASAP
- ☐ WITHIN 48 HOURS
- ☒ WITHIN REGULAR WORK SCHEDULE

RESPONSE:

FOLLOW-UP:

3-8-01

Dear Fr Larry,

I am writing you this note to let you know  
that I recently finished my Masters program at  
Adler and have passed the certification test  
for Substance abuse counselor. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Good news.

I have a question. I had to pay for some of my  
Adler expenses out of pocket. I still have \$9,000 in  
my escrow account. Would it be possible to use  
some of that money to pay these expenses? It  
would be a help. Thank you

Yours truly  
Jen Healer  
[REDACTED]

file

245024

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of Professional Responsibility



P.O. Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979

(312) 751-5205  
Fax: (312) 751-5279

MEMORANDUM

TO: ~~Ralph Bonaccorsi~~, Assistance Ministry  
Rev. James Kaczorowski, Vicar for Priests  
Jimmy Lago, Chancellor  
✓ Leah McCluskey, Office of Professional Responsibility  
John O'Malley, Legal Services  
Rev. Daniel Smilanic, Archbishop's Delegate to the Review Board  
Rev. Thomas Tivy, Vicar for Priests  
UNP

FROM: Laura Neri-Palomino, Administrative Assistant  
Office of Professional Responsibility

DATE: February 6, 2004

RE: [PFR-16]Hoder, James (Resigned)/ [REDACTED] (formerly John Doe)

Attached is a copy of a new allegation received by this office on 2/6/04. We are opening a file and Leah McCluskey, Professional Responsibility Administrator will begin the Review Process by attempting to arrange an interview with [REDACTED]. Please advise this office of any information you may have in your files regarding Hoder, James/ [REDACTED].

It is extremely important that you forward copies of any and all documentation pertinent to this case to this office within 5 business days of receipt of this memo to ensure that the investigation of this matter be properly handled.

Thank you.

Attachments

cc: Most Rev. Edwin M. Conway

AOC 014945



7/16/200

Login Name

David Deitz

Agency

**Child Abuse Investigations and Review**

Record Number

**LEGL/C0200/284#2**

Security Administrative Access, Legal

Home Location

Legal Records - Case Files - PFR-16 Hoder, James (Resigned)/[REDACTED] Protocol

95/06/04

Destroy Permitted

Current Location **Child Abuse Investigations and Review (CAIR), Office for  
since 7/16/2009 at 11:11 AM**

Notes 45561.02

End of Report

24W709125001

Dataset Trimmer

**AOC 014946**

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Post Office Box 1979



Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979

**Office of Professional Fitness Review**

**1 East Superior**

**Suite 504**

**Chicago, IL 60611**

Rev. James Hoder  
P.O. Box 455  
Mundelein, IL. 60060

1100 S. Taylor St  
Oak Park, IL 60304

AOC 014947



7/16/200

Login Name

David Deitz

Agency

**Child Abuse Investigations and Review**

Record Number

**LEGL/C0200/284#3**

Security Administrative Access, Legal

Home Location

Legal Records - Case Files - PFR-16 Hoder, James (Resined) / [REDACTED] Financial File

95/06/04

Destroy Permitted

Current Location **Child Abuse Investigations and Review (CAIR), Office for  
since 7/16/2009 at 11:14 AM**

Notes 45561.02

End of Report

24W709125001

Dataset Trimmer

**AOC 014948**

**From:** Leah McCluskey  
**To:** Grace, Edward  
**Date:** 3/3/2008 4:10:16 PM  
**Subject:** Allegation to Read

Hello Fr. Grace,

Could you please attempt to contact the former Rev. James Hoder? I have an allegation made by [REDACTED] to present to him if he would be willing to schedule a time to speak with us.

Thank you.

Leah

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

FILE COPY


Office for the Protection of Children and Youth  
Office of Assistance Ministry  
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review  
Safe Environment Office




P. O. Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979  
312-751-5388  
312-751-8307, fax

## MEMORANDUM


TO: Mayra Flores, Assistance Ministry  
Rev. Vincent Costello, Vicar for Priests  
Rev. Edward D. Grace, Vicar for Priests  
Jimmy Lago, Chancellor  
Rev. Daniel Smilanic, Archbishop's Delegate to the Review Board  
Patricia Zacharias, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review

From: Ambi Jeffries, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review 

Date: August, 1 2007

Re: Hoder, Rev. James (Resigned) / 

Attached is a copy of a new allegation received by this office on 07/31/2007.

Please advise this office of any information you may have in your files regarding Hoder, Rev. James (Resigned) and /or 

It is extremely important that you forward copies of any and all documentation pertinent to this case to this office within 5 business day so f receipt of this memo to ensure that the investigation of this matter be properly handled.

Thank you.

### Attachment

Cc: Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I.  
Rev. John canary, Vicar General  
Very Rev. James Presta, St. Joseph Seminary  
Rev. Dennis Lyle, Mundelein Seminary  
Be Jim Serritella, Attorney  
John O Malley, Office of Legal Services

AOC 014950

### Victim Statement Abstract

This abstract replaces email correspondence between Victim MM and Leah McCluskey, Director of the Archdiocese of Chicago's Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review, dated July 27, 2007 to August 7, 2007. In Victim MM's initial communication, he informed Ms. McCluskey that he was sexually abused by two difference Archdiocesan priests, Fr. James Hoder and Fr. James Flosi, in 1977. Victim MM also sought information as to the process for filing his claims against Hoder and Flosi. In her response, Ms. McCluskey discussed the process for Victim MM to formalize his allegations.

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of Legal Services

John C. O'Malley  
Director



Post Office Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979

Tel: (312) 751-5379  
Fax: (312) 751-5252  
e-mail: jomalley@archchicago.org

August 10, 2007

**RECEIVED**

**AUG 13 2007**

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO  
OFFICE FOR CHILD ABUSE  
INVESTIGATIONS AND REVIEW

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Ms. Shauna Boliker  
Assistant State's Attorney  
State's Attorney of Cook County  
2650 South California, Room 11 D 10  
Chicago, Illinois 60608

RE: [REDACTED]

Our File #07 SC 091  
Date of Birth: Unknown  
Date of Incident: 1977 (for about 2 years)  
Location of Incident: St. Ita Rectory

Dear Ms. Boliker:

Please be advised the Archdiocese of Chicago's Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review has received an allegation from [REDACTED] that he was sexually abused by Fr. James Hoder, an Archdiocesan priest in 1977, when he was 17 years old. Fr. Hoder is resigned from ministry.

If our office can provide any additional information, or be of any further help, please let me know.

Very truly yours,

  
John C. O'Malley  
Director of Legal Services

JCOM:dd

cc: Ms. Leah McCluskey ✓  
Mr. James A. Serritella  
Ms. Elizabeth Yore

SCDir\07SC091\SA Notification Re [REDACTED]

AOC 014952

**BURKE, WARREN, MACKAY & SERRITELLA, P.C.**

22ND FLOOR IBM PLAZA  
330 NORTH WABASH AVENUE  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611-3607  
TELEPHONE (312) 840-7000  
FACSIMILE (312) 840-7900  
[www.burkelaw.com](http://www.burkelaw.com)

JAMES A. SERRITELLA  
DIRECT DIAL NUMBER  
(312) 840-7040  
[jserritella@burkelaw.com](mailto:jserritella@burkelaw.com)

November 14, 2007

VIA FACSIMILE [REDACTED] & U.S. MAIL

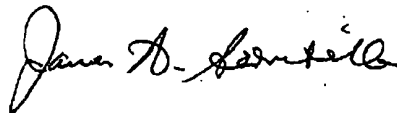
Re: [REDACTED] /Rev. James Hoder

Dear [REDACTED]

I am following up on your letter of November 2, 2007 regarding the above matter. I have passed your correspondence on to Ms. Leah McCluskey, the Director of the Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review for the Archdiocese of Chicago. It is my understanding that someone from her office has been or will be in contact with you about this matter. [REDACTED]

Please direct your communications about this matter to James Geoly of our office (312-840-7080) or the undersigned.

Very truly yours,




James A. Serritella

lj

cc: Leah McCluskey (via facsimile)  
Matthew Hunnicutt (via facsimile)  
James C. Geoly

11/14/2007/1:44 PM/09891/00851/452666/1

AOC 014953

  
November 14, 2007

Page 2

bcc: Reverend Edward Grace (via facsimile)  
Reverend Vincent Costello (via facsimile)  
John O'Malley (via facsimile)

**ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO**


Office for the Protection of Children and Youth  
Office of Assistance Ministry  
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review  
Safe Environment Office




P. O. Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979  
312-751-5388  
312-751-8307, fax

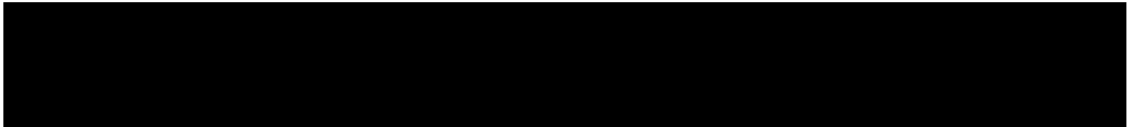
**MEMORANDUM**




To: File - 16



From: Leah McCluskey, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review 

Re: Hoder, Rev. James [Resigned] 

Date: November 16, 2007



I attempted to reach  via phone today and was told that he would be out of the office until Tuesday, November 20<sup>th</sup>. I left my name, agency, phone number, and explained that the reason for my call was in regards to his client, . The secretary stated that she would give the message to  and that he would call me upon his return to his office.

 Chicago office phone number is 

Cc Matt Hunnicutt, Office of Assistance Ministry  
John O'Malley, Legal Services  
James Serritella, Burke, Warren, MacKay, & Serritella

### Victim Statement Abstract

This abstract replaces an amendment drafted by Victim MM to be added to the Allegation of the Sexual Abuse of a Minor Against Rev. James Hoder, dated December 13, 2007. According to Victim MM's revisions, Leah McCluskey, Director for the Archdiocese of Chicago's Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review, told Victim MM that she located records regarding Victim MM's call to Tom Ventura, Vicar for Priests of the Archdiocese of Chicago, in the 1980s.

PTB-16

**From:** Leah McCluskey  
**To:** Perz, Carolyn  
**Date:** 2/4/2008 3:53:54 PM  
**Subject:** Information Request

Hello Carolyn,

When you have the chance, could you please request the school records for [REDACTED] from the following schools:

Our Lady Help of Christians [REDACTED]  
St. Tarcissus (graduated [REDACTED])  
Quigley North [REDACTED]

I'm sorry that I don't have his actual birth date. Please let me know if you need it to request the school records and I can try to get it through his attorney.

Thank you.

Leah

RECEIVED FEB 25 2008

## ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office for the Protection of Children and Youth  
Office of Assistance Ministry  
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review  
Safe Environment Office



P. O. Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979  
312-751-5254, general  
312-751-8307, fax

VIA FACSIMILE AND MAIL

February 6, 2008

RECEIVED

MAR 03 2008

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO  
OFFICE FOR CHILD ABUSE  
INVESTIGATIONS AND REVIEW

Dear [REDACTED]

I first want to apologize for my delay in getting this draft report to you. I hope that this letter finds you and your family doing well.

Enclosed you will find a draft report of your allegation of sexual abuse against the former Rev. James Hoder. The report is based upon our meeting that took place on December 13, 2007. Thank you again for agreeing to travel to and meet with Mr. Matt Hunnicutt and me.

I ask that you review the report and make any changes necessary to ensure its accuracy. Please return the draft to me with any changes in the envelope provided. I will then return a final report to you for your signature. Once all signatures are provided, a copy of the final report will be forwarded to you through your attorney [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] in the interest of expediting this process, I ask that you please return the enclosed report with your changes by February 21, 2008. Please know that you may also respond by February 21<sup>st</sup> with a written request for a two-week extension to review the report, which then I would ask that you return it to me by March 6, 2008. I have noted this time frame in light of presenting this matter to the Review Board as soon as possible so that this matter may continue forward.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [312] 751-5205.

Sincerely,

Leah McCluskey

Director, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review

Enclosure

AOC 014958

TRANSMISSION VERIFICATION REPORT

P7R-16

TIME : 02/06/2008 14:58  
NAME : PROF RESPONSIBILITY  
FAX : 312-7515279  
TEL : 312-7515206  
SER. # : BROM2J864224

DATE, TIME  
FAX NO. /NAME  
DURATION  
PAGE(S)  
RESULT  
MODE

02/06 14:55

00:02:51  
18  
OK  
STANDARD  
ECM

FILE COPY

Archdiocese of Chicago  
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review  
Post Office Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979  
[312] 751-5205  
[312] 751-5279, Fax

Confidential

FAX MEMORANDUM

TO:

[REDACTED]

FROM:

Leah McCluskey

RE:

[REDACTED]

DATE:

February 6, 2008

Message: Dear [REDACTED]

The following are two draft reports concerning your client, [REDACTED] I will have the originals sent via mail. Please contact me at [312] 751-5205 with any questions.

Archdiocese of Chicago  
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review  
Post Office Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979  
[312] 751-5205  
[312] 751-5279, Fax

Confidential

FAX MEMORANDUM

TO:

[REDACTED]

FROM:

Leah McCluskey

RE:

[REDACTED]

DATE:

February 6, 2008

Message: Dear

[REDACTED]

The following are two draft reports concerning your client, [REDACTED] I will have the originals sent via mail. Please contact me at [312] 751-5205 with any questions.

Thank you.

Leah McCluskey

Number of pages [including this cover sheet]: 18

Date and time of transmission: 3:08 PM 02/06/08

AOC 014960

P7R-16

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Joseph Cardinal Bernardin  
Archives & Records Center  
711 West Monroe  
Chicago, Illinois 60661  
(312) 831-0711  
Fax (312) 831-0610



School Records Ext. 724  
Sacramental Records Ext. 722  
Archival Services Ext. 272  
Secretary Ext. 337  
Research Ext. 728

RECEIVED

FEB 08 2008

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO  
OFFICE FOR CHILD ABUSE  
INVESTIGATIONS AND REVIEW

February 8, 2008

Protection of Children and Youth, Office for the  
737 N. Michigan Ave.  
Ste. 900  
Chicago, IL 60611

To Whom It May Concern:

Enclosed please find the school transcript you requested for [REDACTED]. Please review the enclosed records for accuracy. Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact our office. The Archives & Records Center is dedicated to providing timely and accurate information while protecting the privacy of individuals.

Sincerely,

Sylvia Manzo  
Records Clerk

enclosure

AOC 014961

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

# COPY

Office for the Protection of Children and Youth  
Office of Assistance Ministry  
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review  
Safe Environment Office



P. O. Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979  
312-751-5254, general  
312-751-8307, fax

VIA FACSIMILE AND MAIL

March 3, 2008



Dear [REDACTED]

I hope that this letter finds you and your family doing well.

Enclosed you will find a final report of your allegation of sexual misconduct against the former Rev. James Hoder. The report is based upon your revisions that you returned to me. Thank you again so much for reviewing the reports and for all of your additions and changes.

[REDACTED] in the interest of continuing to expedite this process, I ask that you please return the enclosed report with your signature to me by March 17, 2008. I will then return a copy of the report to you once those parties indicated on the final page of the report sign it. In the event that I do not receive any response from you by March 17<sup>th</sup>, I will use the enclosed report and continue to proceed forward with this matter.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [312] 751-5205.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Leah McCluskey".

Leah McCluskey  
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review

Enclosure

AOC 014962

### Victim Statement Abstract

This abstract replaces the Allegation of Sexual Abuse of a Minor and summary prepared by Leah McCluskey, Director of the Archdiocese of Chicago's Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review, of Victim MM's statement given to Ms. McCluskey on December 13, 2007, formalizing his allegation of abuse against Fr. James Hoder. According to Victim MM's statement, the abuse began in 1976 when Victim MM was 17 years old. The alleged abuse began in 1976 and lasted until about 1981 and consisted of mutual masturbation, mutual oral sex and intercourse. According to the statement, Victim MM contacted Tom Ventura, Vicar for Priests of the Archdiocese of Chicago, to report the abuse by Hoder.

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office for the Protection of Children and Youth  
Office of Assistance Ministry  
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review  
Safe Environment Office



P. O. Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979  
312-751-5254, general  
312-751-8307, fax

## MEMORANDUM

To: File – PFR- 16

From: Leah McCluskey, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review

Re: **RESPONSE OF REV. JAMES HODER [RESIGNED] TO THE  
ALLEGATION OF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT MADE BY [REDACTED]**

Date: March 12, 2008

---

**Date of Conference Call: March 12, 2008**

**Time of Conference Call: 1:30 pm**

**Participants in Conference Call**

James Hoder  
Patrick Reardon, civil attorney for Mr. Hoder  
Rev. Vincent Costello, Vicar for Priests  
Leah McCluskey, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review

**Conference Call**

I arrived at the Vicar for Priests' Office just prior to 1:30 pm for the scheduled conference call with the former Rev. James Hoder. It was understood that Mr. Hoder would be at Mr. Patrick Reardon's office so that both would be a part of the conference call. Mr. Reardon called the Vicar for Priests' Office at 1:30 pm and stated that Mr. Hoder was with him.

The call was placed on speakerphone so that Rev. Edward Grace could explain to Mr. Reardon and Mr. Hoder that he would not be able to stay for the meeting, but that Rev. Vincent Costello would be present in his absence.

After introductions were made, Fr. Costello invited Mr. Hoder to listen to the allegation and to choose whether or not he wanted to make a response. Mr. Reardon then stated that he and Mr. Hoder spoke before the conference call began and agreed that they would most likely not make any response today.

I then proceeded to read [REDACTED] allegation against Mr. Hoder in its entirety.

After reading the allegation, it was agreed that I would send a copy of the allegation report to Mr. Hoder in care of Mr. Reardon.

When asked, Mr. Reardon reiterated that he and Mr. Hoder spoke before the conference call and decided that they would not make a response to the allegation.

Fr. Costello and I again thanked Mr. Hoder and Mr. Reardon for their time.

---

James Hoder

---

Date

---

Leah McCluskey, Director

---

Date

---

Rev. Vincent Costello, Vicar for Priests

---

Date

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

**FILE COPY**

Office for the Protection of Children and Youth  
Office of Assistance Ministry  
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review  
Safe Environment Office



P. O. Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979  
312-751-5254, general  
312-751-8307, fax

**VIA FACSIMILIE AND MAIL**

March 13, 2008

Mr. James Hoder  
C/o Patrick Reardon  
2200 W. Lawrence Ave., Suite 201  
Chicago, Illinois 60625

Dear Mr. Hoder,

Enclosed you will find a draft report of our March 12, 2008 conference call where [REDACTED] allegation of the sexual abuse of a minor was presented to you. Thank you again for your time on March 12<sup>th</sup>.

I ask that you review the report and make any changes and/or additions necessary to ensure its accuracy. Please return the draft to me with any changes in the envelope provided. I will then return a final report to you for your signature. Once all signatures are provided, a copy of the final report will be forwarded to you through your civil attorney Patrick Reardon.

Mr. Hoder, in the interest of expediting this process, I ask that you please return the enclosed report with your changes and/or additions by March 27, 2008. Please know that you may also respond by March 27<sup>th</sup> with a written request for a two-week extension to review the report, which then I would ask that you return it to me by April 10, 2008. I have noted this time frame in light of presenting this matter to the Review Board as soon as possible so that this matter may continue forward.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [312] 751-5205 or Rev. Edward Grace at [312] 642-1837.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leah McCluskey".

Leah McCluskey  
Director, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review

Enclosure

**AOC 014966**

DATE, TIME  
FAX NO./NAME  
DURATION  
PAGE(S)  
RESULT  
MODE

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04  
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STANDARD  
ECM



## Office for the Protection of Children and Youth

Archdiocese of Chicago  
Post Office Box 1979 Chicago, IL 60690-1979

### FAX TRANSMITTAL COVER SHEET

\* Please deliver this facsimile transmission to the person indicated below.

From **Santa Garcia** *S.G.*

Ph. #: 312/ 751-5251

Fax #: 312/ 751-8307

To: **Mr. Patrick Reardon**

Attached please find a draft report concerning your client, Mr. James Hoder. I will have the original sent via mail today. Please contact Leah McCluskey at 312- 751-5205 with any questions you may have.

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office for the Protection of Children and Youth  
Office of Assistance Ministry  
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review  
Safe Environment Office



P. O. Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979  
312-751-5254, general  
312-751-8307, fax

## OFFICE FOR CHILD ABUSE INVESTIGATIONS AND REVIEW

### REVIEW BOARD MEETING Saturday, March 15, 2008

#### AGENDA

I. **Approval of Minutes** - February 16, 2008

II. **Case Reviews**

Initial Review

A. [REDACTED]

B. [REDACTED]

- C. In the Matter of Rev. James Hoder (Resigned 1997) PFR-16
- Allegation made by [REDACTED]

D. [REDACTED]

E. [REDACTED]

Review for Cause

F. [REDACTED]

III. **Request for Supplementary Review**

- 
- 
- 
- 



IV. **Updates**

- 



V. **Other Matters**

- 



The next Board Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, **April 26, 2008**

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office for the Protection of Children and Youth  
Office of Assistance Ministry  
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review  
Safe Environment Office



P. O. Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979  
312-751-5254, general  
312-751-8307, fax

## Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review

### Review Board

Saturday, March 15, 2008 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

### MINUTES

#### Review Board Members Present:

[Redacted]

#### Review Board Members Not Present:

[Redacted]

#### Non-members Present:

Leah McCluskey, Director, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review  
Rev. Daniel Smilanic, Cardinal's Delegate to the Review Board  
Patricia Zacharias, Assistant Director, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review

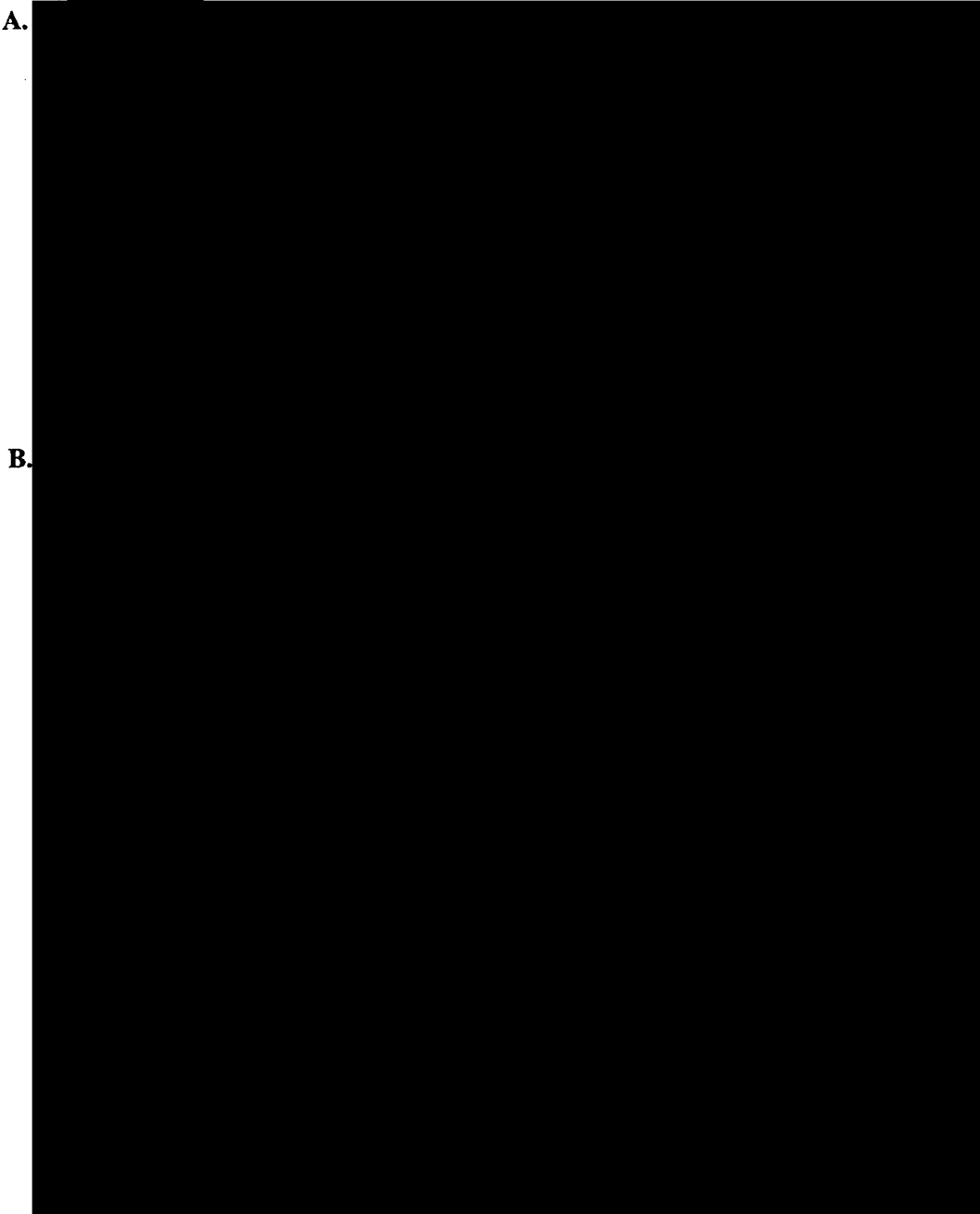
#### **I. Approval of Minutes – February 16, 2008**

- Minutes approved
- By 9:30am, there were only five members present and it was determined that discussions of the following cases would proceed with the understanding that there would not be a quorum and therefore, no votes could be taken on any of the matters
- [Redacted]
- Noted that the next Review Board meeting is scheduled for Saturday, April 26, 2008
- Noted that the May 2008 Review Board meeting is cancelled

- [REDACTED] will not be present at the June 14, 2008 or September 13, 2008 scheduled Review Board meetings

**II. Case Reviews**  
**Initial Review**

A.



B.

**C. In the Matter of Rev. James Hoder [Resigned 1997] – PFR - 16**

The Review Board was to conduct an Initial Review of [REDACTED] allegation of the sexual abuse of a minor by the former Rev. James Hoder. A summary of the

allegation is as follows: mutual oral sex and masturbation; Fr. Hoder showed [REDACTED] pornography.

Ms. McCluskey informed the Review Board that this allegation was initially scheduled to be read to Mr. Hoder on March 7, 2008. She and Rev. Edward Grace, Vicar for Priests, did speak with Mr. Hoder via phone on March 7<sup>th</sup> and explained the process to him. Ms. McCluskey informed the Board that he was clearly upset by this and expressed to Fr. Grace that he thought that this matter had been addressed in the past. During the March 7<sup>th</sup> phone conversation, Ms. McCluskey informed Mr. Hoder that he could not be forced to have [REDACTED] allegation read to him, but that it was his right to know of what he was being accused. Mr. Hoder broke down in tears on two different occasion during the March 7<sup>th</sup> phone call and asked if the conference call could be postponed until he had the opportunity to speak with a civil attorney. He said that [civil attorney] Patrick Reardon worked with him when he left the priesthood approximately 10 years ago. Mr. Hoder said that he would like to see if he could get into contact with Mr. Reardon and then reschedule the meeting to have [REDACTED] allegation read to him.

Ms. McCluskey informed the Review Board that [REDACTED] allegation was read to Mr. Hoder via phone on March 12, 2008. She then read Mr. Hoder's response to the Board. Ms. McCluskey informed the Board that she would schedule time to review Mr. Hoder's file in the Chancellor's Office.

Fr. Smilanic informed the Board of his knowledge that Mr. Hoder currently drives limousines at O'Hare

Due to the fact that there was not a quorum, the Board could not render a vote. However, the members present discussed the matter and the consensus was that it bears further investigation. The Board members present suggested that if this matter proceeded forward, that Ms. McCluskey do the following:

- [REDACTED] er
- Attempt to speak with the priests named by [REDACTED] in his allegation

D. [REDACTED]

**E.**



[REDACTED]

Review for Cause

F.

[REDACTED]

**III. Request for Supplementary Review**

- 

- 

**IV. Other Matters**

- 

- 

**Updates**

-

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- 

- 



*Next scheduled meeting is Saturday, April 26, 2008 at 9:00 a.m.*

TRANSMISSION VERIFICATION REPORT

TIME : 03/25/2008 08:12  
NAME : PROF RESPONSIBILITY  
FAX : 312-7515279  
TEL : 312-7515206  
SER.# : BROM2J864224

DATE, TIME  
FAX NO./NAME  
DURATION  
PAGE(S)  
RESULT  
MODE

03/25 08:10  
00:01:40  
10  
OK  
STANDARD  
ECM

Archdiocese of Chicago  
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review  
Post Office Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979  
[312] 751-5205  
[312] 751-5279, Fax

Confidential

FAX MEMORANDUM

TO:

FROM:

Leah McCluskey

RE:

Hoder, Rev. James/

DATE:

March 25, 2008

Message:

I apologize for the difficulty in getting this report to you. I will send an original copy in the mail to you as well. Please call me at [312] 751-5205 with any questions.

AOC 014977

Archdiocese of Chicago  
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review  
Post Office Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979  
[312] 751-5205  
[312] 751-5279, Fax

Confidential

FAX MEMORANDUM

TO:

[REDACTED]

FROM:

Leah McCluskey

RE:

Hoder, Rev. James/

[REDACTED]

DATE:

March 25, 2008

Message:

[REDACTED]

I apologize for the difficulty in getting this report to you. I will send an original copy in the mail to you as well. Please call me at [312] 751-5205 with any questions.

Thank you,

Leah McCluskey

Number of pages [including this cover sheet]: 10

Date and time of transmission: '9:24 AM 03/25/08

AOC 014978

**From:** Leah McCluskey  
**To:** harvey@hillardheintze.com; Molloy, Jim  
**Date:** 3/31/2008 11:07:57 AM  
**Subject:** Fwd: Request for Information

Jim and/or Harvey,

Could one of you please forward this e-mail to Rich Lapinski? He called this morning and I tried to copy him on the e-mail that he gave to me [REDACTED] but must have written it down incorrectly.

Thank you.

Leah

Leah McCluskey, MSW, LSW  
Director, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review  
737 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 900  
Chicago, Illinois 60611  
Office: [312] 751-5205  
Fax: [312] 751-5279  
lmcccluskey@archchicago.org

**From:** Leah McCluskey  
**To:** Treanor, John  
**Date:** 3/31/2008 11:04:19 AM  
**Subject:** Request for Information

Hello Jac,

Patty and I are now working in our office with a professional investigation firm by the name of Hillard Heintze on the matters that we receive in our office re: alleged sexual abuse of children by clerics/lay/volunteers/religious.

Rick Lapinski, whom I've copied on this e-mail, is one of the investigators with Hillard Heintze.

Rich is working on a matter where we are trying to establish if a particular student [REDACTED] was working at Holy Name Cathedral in the 1970s. As per Rich, he spoke with someone at Holy Name who informed him that they only have records there dating back to 1990.

Would there be any such records in the Archives from Holy Name? Rich also asked if possibly there would have been some sort of records at Quigley noting if any students worked at Holy Name during the aforementioned time period.

Any information that you would have, or a different direction to try would be great.

Thanks Jac.

Leah

Leah McCluskey, MSW, LSW  
Director, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review  
737 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 900  
Chicago, Illinois 60611  
Office: [312] 751-5205  
Fax: [312] 751-5279  
lmcccluskey@archchicago.org

**CC:** rhl4555@wowway.com

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office for the Protection of Children and Youth  
Office of Assistance Ministry  
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review  
Safe Environment Office



P. O. Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979  
312-751-5254, general  
312-751-8307, fax

## Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review

**Review Board Conference Call**  
**Thursday, April 3, 2008 1:15 pm to 1:45 pm**

### MINUTES

#### Review Board Member Participants in Conference Call:

[REDACTED]

#### Review Board Members Unable to Participate in Conference Call:

[REDACTED]

#### Non-member Participants in Conference Call:

Leah McCluskey, Director, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review  
Rev. Daniel Smilanic, Cardinal's Delegate to the Review Board

①

- [REDACTED] explained the purpose of the April 3, 2008 Conference Call; noted that there were three lay members and three clergy members at the beginning of the call and therefore as per policy, clerics may not carry a motion
- [REDACTED] explained that there was not a quorum at the March 15, 2008 Review Board meeting; stated that the Board members present that day in addition to himself were [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED] stated that those members present at the March 15<sup>th</sup> meeting discussed the matters on the [March 15, 2008] Agenda without taking any votes; discussion recorded and reflected in March 15, 2008 Meeting Minutes; agreed that an attempt would be made to schedule a Conference Call to discuss the Initial Review matters prior to the next Review Board meeting scheduled for April 26, 2008
- [REDACTED] stated that the Initial Review and Request for Supplementary Review matters would be discussed during the April 3<sup>rd</sup> Conference Call; noted that the Review for Cause matters would be discussed at the scheduled April 26<sup>th</sup> meeting
- [REDACTED] reiterated that there was no vote taken on any of the matters discussed at the March 15<sup>th</sup> meeting, but that consensus recommendations were made to be shared with the entire Review Board
- At this point during the April 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting, [REDACTED] joined the Conference Call; [REDACTED] provided [REDACTED] with the aforementioned update

**I. Case Reviews**  
**Initial Review**

**A.**



**B.**

**C. In the Matter of Rev. James Hoder [Resigned 1997] – PFR - 16**

The Review Board conducted an Initial Review of [REDACTED] allegation of the sexual abuse of a minor by the former Rev. James Hoder. A summary of the allegation is as follows: mutual oral sex and masturbation; Fr. Hoder showed [REDACTED] pornography.

Ms. McCluskey provided the Review Board with a verbal update of the review done of Fr. Hoder's file in the Vicar for Priests' Office.

[REDACTED] asked if [REDACTED] had signed his statement [report of his allegation against Fr. Hoder]. Ms. McCluskey explained that mistakes had been made in sending the final report to [REDACTED] via his civil attorney for his review and signature [the draft report was sent on two occasions instead of the final report with [REDACTED] changes]. As per Ms. McCluskey, the correct report was sent to [REDACTED] via his attorney the week prior.

The Board members were asked if anyone had any additional requests for information to be added to those suggested by the members present at the March 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. No one had any additional requests.

In a 7-0 vote in light of the information presented, the Board determined that this matter warrants additional investigation.

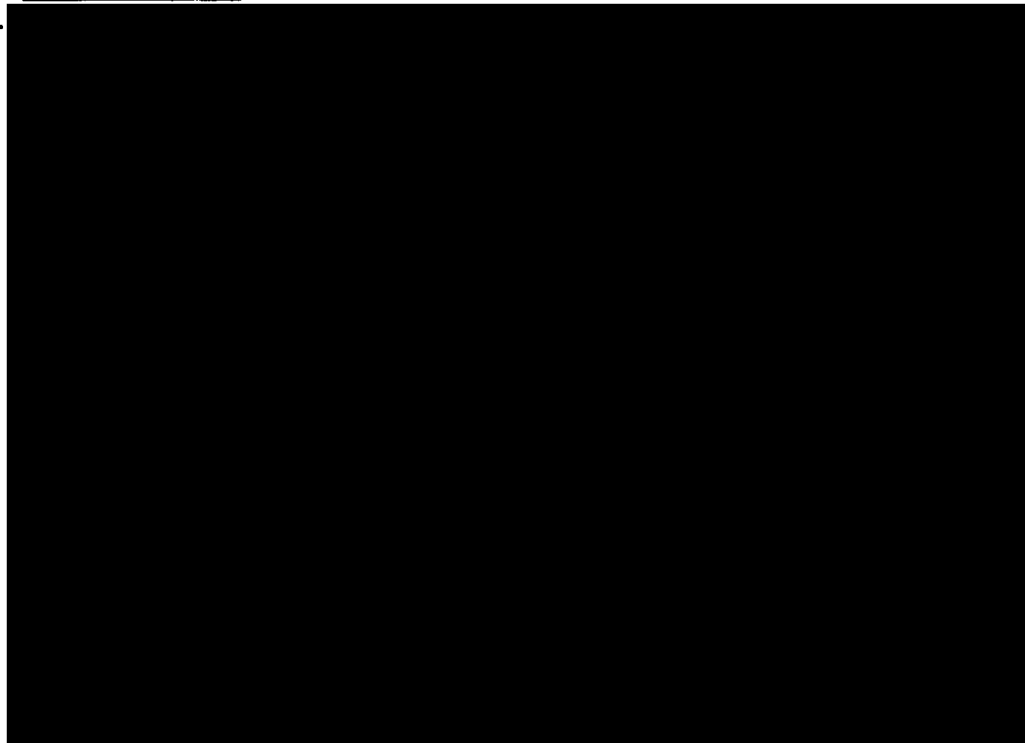
**D.**

**E.**

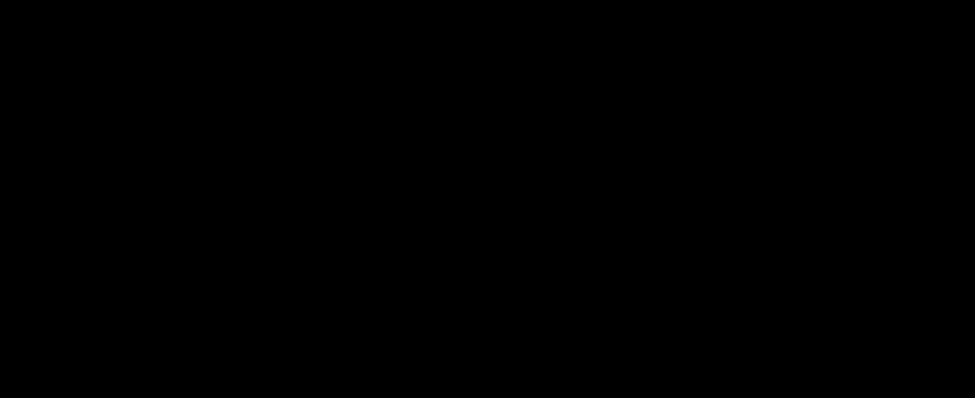


**Review for Cause**

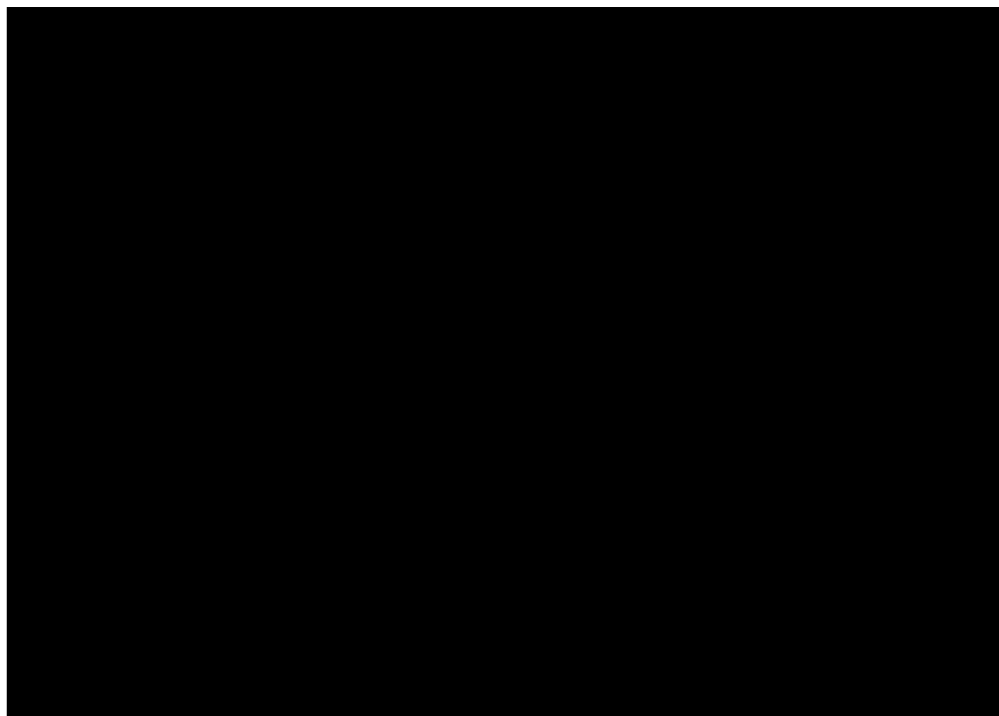
F.



**II. Request for Supplementary Review**

- 

- 



*Next scheduled meeting is Saturday, April 26, 2008 at 9:00 a.m.*

RECEIVED

APR 9 - 2008

## ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office for the Protection of Children and Youth  
Office of Assistance Ministry  
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review  
Safe Environment Office



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO  
OFFICE FOR CHILD ABUSE  
INVESTIGATIONS AND REVIEW

P. O. Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979  
312-751-5254, general  
312-751-8307, fax

April 4, 2008

Cardinal Francis George, O.M.I.  
Archbishop of Chicago  
155 E. Superior Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60611

Dear Cardinal George,

Please be advised that the independent Review Board met via conference call on April 3, 2008 and conducted an Initial Review of [REDACTED] allegation of sexual misconduct against the former Rev. James Hoder pursuant to Article §1104.9 of the Review Process for Continuation of Ministry. Mr. Hoder is a resigned priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago.

The Board made the determination that in light of the information presented, this matter warrants additional investigation. The additional information obtained will be presented to the Board along with all other information regarding this matter for a Review for Cause.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [312] 751-5205.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leah McCluskey".

Leah McCluskey  
Director, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review

*I accept the  
determination.*  
*For  
Apr 3, 2008*

AOC 014986

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office for the Protection of Children and Youth  
Office of Assistance Ministry  
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review  
Safe Environment Office



P. O. Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979  
312-751-5254, general  
312-751-8307, fax

April 16, 2008

Mr. James Hoder  
C/o Patrick Reardon  
2200 W. Lawrence Ave., Suite 201  
Chicago, Illinois 60625

Dear Mr. Hoder,

Please be advised that the Independent Review Board met on April 3, 2008 and conducted an Initial Review of [REDACTED] allegation of sexual misconduct against you pursuant to Article §1104.9 of the Review Process for Continuation of Ministry.

Cardinal George has accepted the Review Board's determination that in light of the information presented, additional investigation is warranted. Meaning, the Board determined that based upon the information presented for their review, there is cause to continue to investigate this matter. Further, if you have any additional information at this time you wish to share and have presented to the Board, please forward it to my attention. Any additional information obtained and/or received will be presented to the Board at a Review for Cause of this matter.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at any time. I may be reached at [312] 751-5205. Also, please know that Rev. Edward Grace, Vicar for Priests continues to be available to you and may be reached at [312] 642-1837.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Leah McCluskey".

Leah McCluskey  
Director, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review

✓

Cc Rev. Edward Grace, Vicar for Priests

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

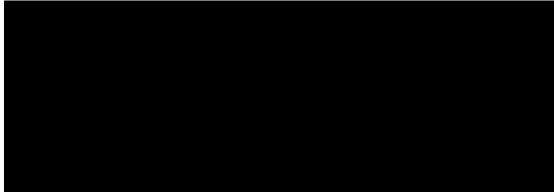
Office for the Protection of Children and Youth  
Office of Assistance Ministry  
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review  
Safe Environment Office



P. O. Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979  
312-751-5254, general  
312-751-8307, fax

April 16, 2008

COPY



Dear [REDACTED]

Please be advised that the Independent Review Board met on April 3, 2008 and conducted an Initial Review of your allegation of sexual misconduct against the former Rev. James Hoder pursuant to Article §1104.9 of the Review Process for Continuation of Ministry. Mr. Hoder is a resigned priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago.

Cardinal George has accepted the Review Board's determination that in light of the information presented, additional investigation is warranted. Meaning, the Board determined that based upon the information presented for their review, there is cause to continue to investigate this matter. Further, if you have any additional information at this time you wish to share and have presented to the Board, please forward it to my attention. Any additional information obtained and/or received will be presented to the Board at a Review for Cause of this matter.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at any time. I may be reached at [312] 751-5205. Also, please know that the staff of the Office of Assistance Ministry continues to be available to you and may be reached at [312] 751-8267.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Leah McCluskey".

Leah McCluskey  
Director, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review

Cc Matt Hunnicutt, Office of Assistance Ministry

bcc: John O'Malley  
James Serritella

AOC 014988

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office for the Protection of Children and Youth  
Office of Assistance Ministry  
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review  
Safe Environment Office



P. O. Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979  
312-751-5254, general  
312-751-8307, fax

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** ✓ Rev. Edward Grace, Vicar for Priests  
Rev. Daniel Smilanic, Archbishop's Delegate to the Review Board  
Matt Hunnicutt, Assistance Ministry

**From:** Santa Garcia, Secretary *SG*  
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review

**Re:** [PFR-16] HODER, REV. JAMES (RESIGNED) [REDACTED]

**Date:** April 21, 2008

Enclosed please find a copy of the signed report of allegation of sexual abuse against [PFR-16] Hoder, Rev. James [Resigned]/[REDACTED] for your files.

Call Leah McCluskey at 312-751-5205 with any questions you may have. Thank you.

Enclosure

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office for the Protection of Children and Youth  
Office of Assistance Ministry  
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review  
Safe Environment Office



P. O. Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979  
312-751-5254, general  
312-751-8307, fax

**FILE COPY**

April 21, 2008



Dear [REDACTED],

Enclosed you will find a signed report of your allegation of sexual abuse against Rev. James Hoder [Resigned] for your file. If you have any questions, please contact Leah McCluskey at (312) 751-5205.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Santa Garcia".

Santa Garcia  
Secretary

Enclosure

Bcc: John O'Malley  
James Serritella

AOC 014990

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of the Archbishop



155 E. Superior St.  
Chicago, Illinois 60611

April 24, 2008

Ms. Leah McCluskey  
Office of Child Abuse Investigation and Review  
P.O. Box 1979  
Chicago, IL 60690-1979

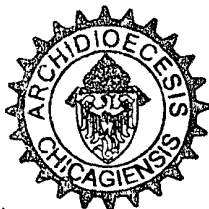
Dear Ms. McCluskey,

I am writing to you in order to formalize my handwritten note in response to your letter of April 4, 2008, regarding the matter of **James Hoder** who was ordained a priest for the Archdiocese of Chicago but who resigned from priestly ministry many years ago, and the allegation made by [REDACTED], following the Initial Review conducted by the Review Board on April 3, 2008.

In light of the Board's consideration of the information presented in this matter, I accept the Board's determination, and believe that the information suggests further investigation into whether **James Hoder** engaged in sexual misconduct with a minor.

With this letter is a decree which appoints you as the investigator into an allegation of sexual misconduct with a minor that was made against **James Hoder**. The terms of this investigation are spelled out in the decree.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.



Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Francis Cardinal George".

Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I.  
Archbishop of Chicago

*Rev. Richard Sanders*  
Ecclesiastical Notary

cc: Very Reverend John F. Canary, Vicar General  
Rev. Daniel A. Smilanic, Cardinal's Delegate  
Rev. Patrick R. Lagges, Judicial Vicar/Vicar for Canonical Services  
Reverend Edward D. Grace, Vicar for Priests  
Mr. Matt Hunnicutt, Assistance Minister  
Mr. Jimmy Lago, Chancellor  
Mr. John C. O'Malley, Director of Legal Services

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of the Archbishop



155 E. Superior St.  
Chicago, Illinois 60611

## D E C R E E

Having received the recommendation of the Archdiocesan Review Board that information at least seems to be true that **James Hoder** engaged in sexual misconduct with [REDACTED], a minor at the time of the alleged incident, I have concluded that this constitutes information which "at least seems to be true" (c. 1717) and warrants further investigation.

Therefore, in accordance with the aforementioned canon, I decree that an inquiry be done into the facts and circumstances of this accusation, as well as its imputability to **James Hoder**.

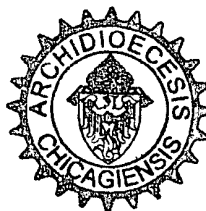
Since my other duties prevent me from conducting this investigation personally, I hereby appoint **Ms. Leah McCluskey** to act as the investigator in this matter. In carrying out these duties, Ms. McCluskey will have all of the authority of an auditor, in accordance with cc. 1428 and 1717. She is to collect any additional proofs she deems necessary in accordance with the norm of law as they relate to the present allegation. She is delegated to take testimony from the accused and from any witnesses (cc. 1530 – 1538 and 1547 – 1573), to obtain any necessary documents (cc. 1540 – 1546), to enlist the services of any experts deemed necessary (cc. 1574 – 1581), and to have access to places or things which she deems necessary for her investigation.

In conducting her investigation, Ms. McCluskey is to take care that such an investigation does nothing to harm James Hoder's name or to violate his right to protect his privacy.

After she has concluded her investigation, Ms. McCluskey is to make a written and oral report to the Review Board, no later than one hundred eighty days from the date of this appointment. This report is to address the facts, circumstances, and imputability concerning the alleged offense. This report is to be sent to me, along with the advice of the Review Board.

Given on April 24, 2008, at Chicago, Illinois.

Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I.  
Archbishop of Chicago



*Rev. Richard Lueders*  
Ecclesiastical Notary

RECEIVED

MAY 21 2008

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO  
OFFICE FOR CHILD ABUSE  
INVESTIGATIONS AND REVIEW

DRAFT

MEMORANDUM

To: File - PFR - 16

From: Leah McCluskey, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review

Re: Hoder, Rev. James [Resigned]

Date: April 30, 2008

As a result of the allegation of the sexual abuse of a minor made by [REDACTED] against the former Rev. James Hoder, I conducted a review of the cleric's Vicar for Priests file. The following is a summary of the file review completed on April 1, 2008.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**8/23/90:** Memorandum to file from Fr. Raymond Goedert; report made back to Cardinal Bernardin that as per a local alderman, some sort of investigation was going on and it involved Fr. Hoder and drugs

**8/27/90:** Memorandum to file from Fr. Goedert; report of State's Attorney's investigation concerning Fr. Hoder, that he was trying to buy drugs from someone who is an undercover agent

**12/17/90;** [REDACTED]: letters in file noting that an investigator used by the Vicar for Priests' office did not uncover any information about Fr. Hoder and a question of him being under surveillance by the police

**2/15/91:** notation in file that Fr. Hoder's sabbatical had ended and he was helping out at St. David's

**8/23/91:** Fr. Hoder was appointed associate pastor to Rev. Casmir Szatkowski at St. Joseph [on Hermitage]

**11/14/91:** letter from Cardinal Bernardin to Fr. Hoder; Fr. Hoder on administrative leave;

[REDACTED]

**1/12/92:** Individual Specific Protocol [ISP] for Fr. Hoder [see attached]

**3/3/92:** Memorandum to file from Fr. O'Malley; brought to his attention that Fr. Hoder was paid with two checks for three months and did not say anything [received a check from his pastor and from the Vicar for Priests' Office]

**3/6/92:** ISP for Fr. Hoder [see attached]

**4/29/92:** Memorandum to file from Fr. O'Malley; noted that he met with Fr. Hoder on 4/28 and talked about his future in ministry; determined that Fr. Hoder was allowed to help out at St. Michael the Archangel under pastor Jack Tilford; Fr. Hoder's assignment would be reviewed at the end of 8/92

**5/5/92:** ISP for Fr. Hoder [see attached]

**5/14/92:** letter from Fr. O'Malley to Fr. Hoder; Fr. Hoder was to help out at St. Michael's under Fr. Tilford but will not reside there or stay overnight

**6/14/92:** letter from Fr. O'Malley to Fr. Tilford; stated that Fr. Hoder was not able to help anymore on the weekends; "...with the new instructions from the Cardinal's Commission, we have to take another look at how we will restore priests to ministry after allegations of misconduct."

**6/24/92:** Memorandum to file from Fr. O'Malley; spoke with Fr. Jim Ray at Catholic Charities about Fr. Hoder working part-time chaplaincy at University of Illinois Hospitals

**7/6/92:** Memorandum to file from Fr. O'Malley [see attached]

**7/15/92:** Memorandum from Bishop Edwin Conway at Catholic Charities regarding Fr. Hoder; his understanding that Fr. Hoder would begin on 8/1/92 limited chaplaincy at the Illinois University Hospital Center

**8/1/92:** ISP for Fr. Hoder [see attached]

**10/8/92:** letter from Fr. [Tom] Paprocki to Fr. Hoder; referred to celebret card and that Fr. Hoder was only permitted to celebrate mass/other religious service publicly once approved by the Vicar for Priests and may continue his work at UIC; administrative leave indicated in Cardinal Bernardin's 11/14/91 letter still in effect; Fr. Hoder still bound by his ISP and "Residence Protocol"

[REDACTED]

**11/25/92:** letter from Fr. Paprocki to Fr. Hoder; Fr. Hoder was placed on administrative leave from all ministry and was to return his celebret card

**12/1/92:** noted that Rev. Patrick Lagges was acting as Fr. Hoder's [canonical] advocate

**12/2/92:** handwritten letter from Fr. Hoder to Fr. O'Malley [see attached]

**12/9/92:** letter from Fr. Hoder to Fr. Paprocki [see attached]

**12/16/92:** letter from Fr. Paprocki to Fr. Hoder; response to Fr. Hoder's 12/9/92 letter [see attached]

**12/17/92:** letter from Fr. Hoder to Cardinal Bernardin concerning his correspondence with Fr. Paprocki; "I am hereby petitioning for hierarchical recourse against a decree issued on Nov. 25, 1992 by Rev. T J. Paprocki."

**12/30/92:** letter from Cardinal Bernardin to Fr. Hoder; response to Fr. Hoder's 12/17/92 letter included, "In accord with this declaration, you are forbidden to engage in any ministerial activity related to the exercise of holy orders."

**1/21/93:** letter to Fr. O'Malley from civil attorney Brent D. Stratton of Tuite, Stratton, & Menaker noting their being retained by Fr. Hoder as a result of the allegation against him reported to the Archdiocese of Chicago in November 1992; noted they had advised Fr. Hoder not to respond to the allegation

**2/2/93:** ISP for Fr. Hoder [see attached]

**3/29/93:** Memorandum to file from Fr. O'Malley; included, "I met with James Hoder today to talk about his situation regarding the Fitness Review Board and a possible request for re-entry into some partial ministry in the future."

**2/19/94:** Memorandum from Fr. O'Malley to Fr. Paprocki; noted that Cardinal Bernardin, Fr. Canary, and Fr. O'Malley met with Fr. Hoder on 2/18/94; Cardinal Bernardin told Fr. Hoder his "presumption" was that he would not be coming back into active ministry

**3/5/94:** letter from Fr. O'Malley to Fr. Hoder, sent to him at the Cardinal Stritch Retreat House; informed Fr. Hoder that the Advisory Board and the Cardinal agreed that his request to be removed from the prohibitions of Canon 1044 was appropriate to bring before the Professional Fitness Review Board

**5/5/94:** Memorandum from Fr. O'Malley to Cardinal Bernardin; Fr. O'Malley and Fr. Canary met with Fr. Hoder and Fr. Laggis; informed Fr. Hoder of the Advisory Board's recommendations, which included that he would remain under Canon 1044 and that the Cardinal [REDACTED]

**6/7/94:** Memorandum from Fr. O'Malley to Cardinal Bernardin; Fr. Hoder would be moving [REDACTED]

**9/6/94:** Memorandum to file from Fr. Canary [see attached]

**No date:** Fr. Hoder's resume [see attached]

**10/19/94:** Memorandum to file from Fr. O'Malley; [REDACTED]  
Fr. O'Malley spoke with Fr. Hoder and told him that upon his return to Chicago, "...his [Fr. Hoder's] options are limited. He will be asked to submit his resignation and a package will be prepared."

**2/27/95:** letter from Vicar for Priests to Fr. Hoder [see attached]

**4/17/96:** letter from Fr. Hoder to Cardinal Bernardin asking him to "...reconsider and to remove the canonical penalty that you placed on me in December 1992."  
[REDACTED]

**5/15/97:** [REDACTED]

**5/24/97:** Fr. Hoder's resignation from the priesthood is effective

**Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review**

**Review Board**

**Saturday, May 31, 2008 9:00 am to 1:00 pm**

**MINUTES**

**Review Board Members Present:**

[REDACTED]

**Review Board Members Present Via Phone:**

[REDACTED]

**Review Board Members Not Present:**

[REDACTED]

**Non-members Present:**

Leah McCluskey, Director, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review  
Rev. Daniel Smilanic, Cardinal's Delegate to the Review Board

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- The meeting began with Fr. Smilanic providing the Review Board with a verbal update of his recent trip to Rome representing the Canon Law Society; Fr. Smilanic stated that while at the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith [CDF], the following two main points were made:
  - The importance of the work of Review Boards
  - The importance of determinations of Review Boards, such as decisions that are made [by the Cardinal] based upon the Board's Review for Cause determinations; once a decision on a matter is made, it enables the CDF to go forward [Fr. Smilanic provided the example of current petitions for laicizations before the CDF]

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

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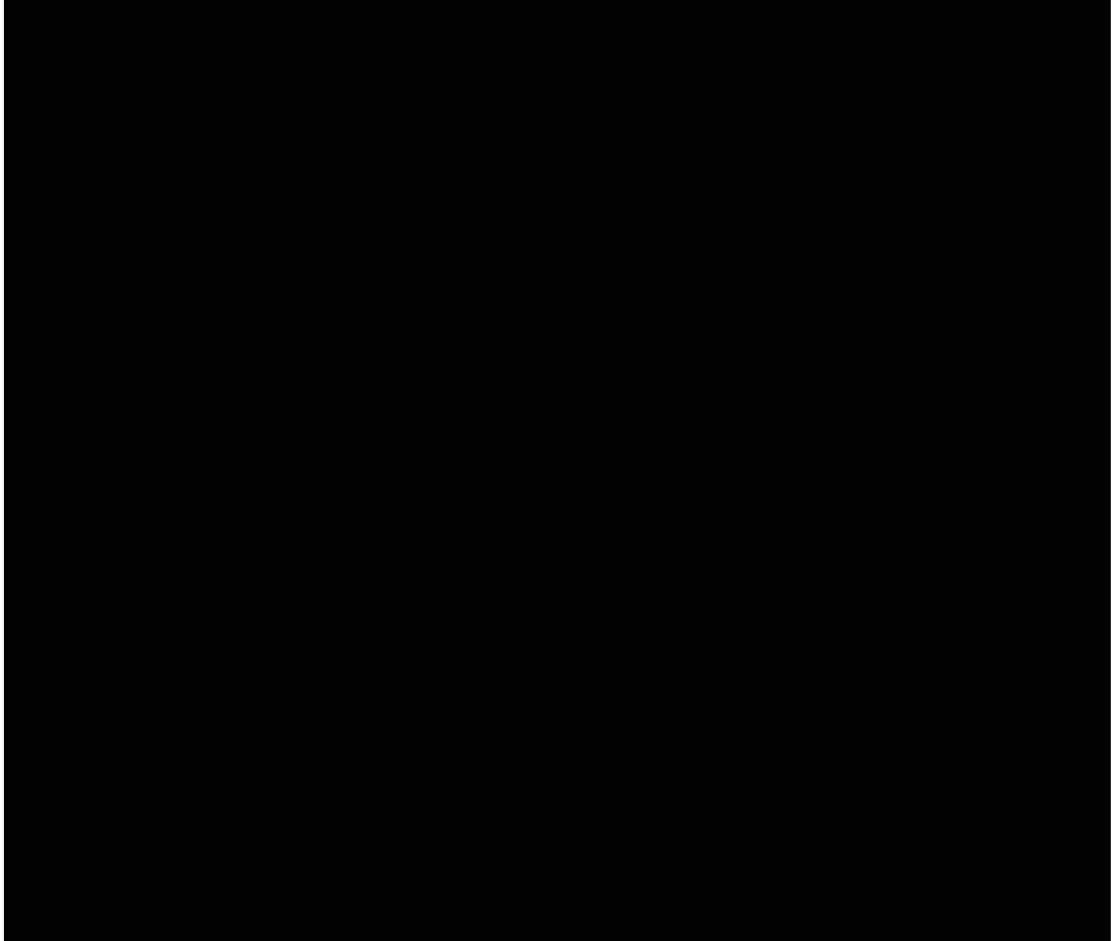
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- I. Approval of Minutes – April 26, 2008**
- Minutes approved

**II. Case Reviews**  
**Initial Review**

**A.**



**B.**

Review for Cause

C.

D.

E.

F.

G.

H.

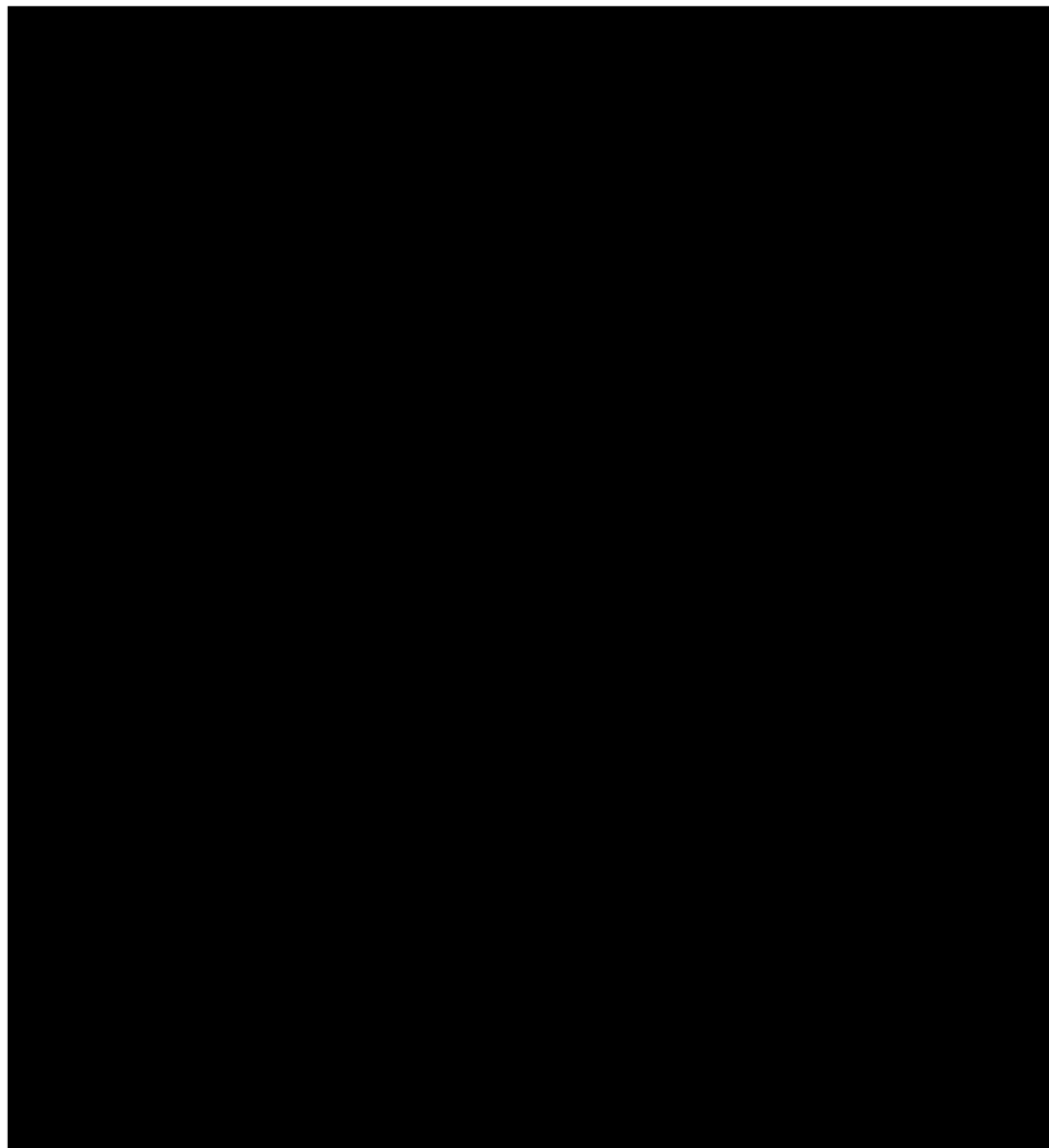


**I. In the Matter of Rev. James Hoder [Resigned 1997] – PFR - 16**

The Review Board conducted a Review for Cause of [REDACTED] allegation of the sexual abuse of a minor by the former Rev. James Hoder. A summary of the allegation is as follows: mutual oral sex and masturbation; Fr. Hoder showed [REDACTED] pornography.

In a 7-0 vote in light of the information presented, the Board determined that there is reason to suspect that the accused has engaged in sexual abuse of a minor.

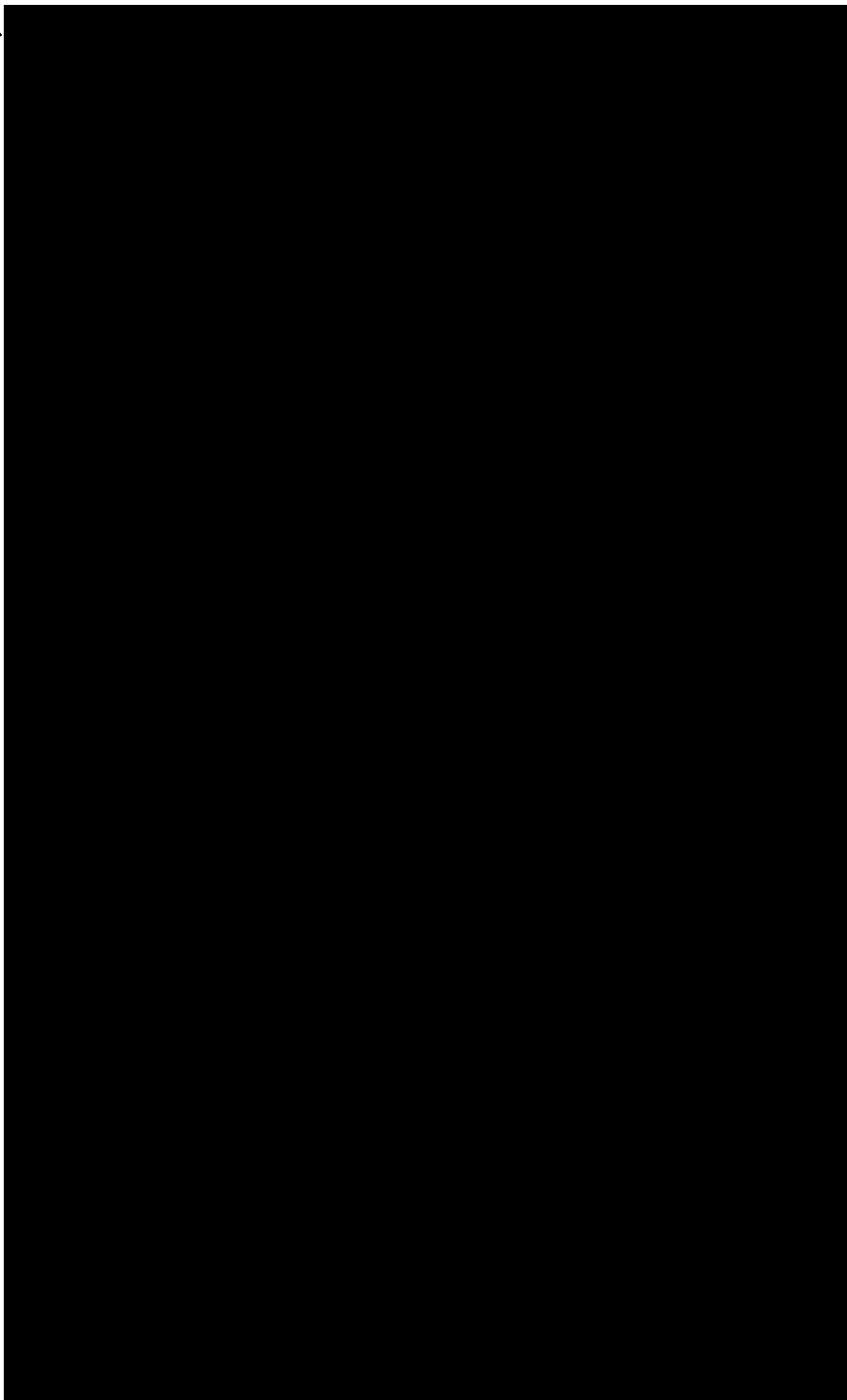
**J.**



**K.**

L.

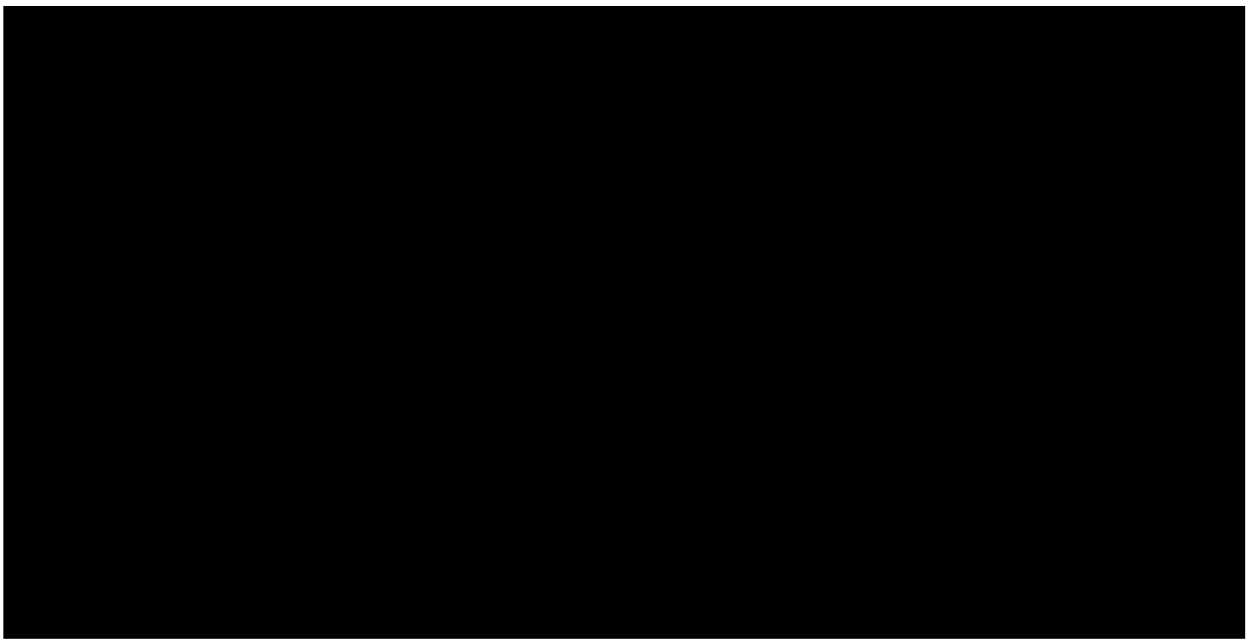
M.



[REDACTED]

III.

[REDACTED]



*Next scheduled meeting is Saturday, June 28, 2008 at 9:00 a.m.*

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office for the Protection of Children and Youth  
Office of Assistance Ministry  
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review  
Safe Environment Office



P. O. Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979  
312-751-5254, general  
312-751-8307, fax

June 3, 2008

**RECEIVED**

**JUN 05 2008**

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO  
OFFICE FOR CHILD ABUSE  
INVESTIGATIONS AND REVIEW

Cardinal Francis George, O.M.I.  
Archbishop of Chicago  
155 E. Superior Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60611


Dear Cardinal George,

Please be advised that the independent Review Board met on May 31, 2008 and conducted a Review for Cause of [REDACTED] allegation of sexual misconduct against the former Rev. James Hoder pursuant to Article §1104.10 of the Review Process for Continuation of Ministry. Mr. Hoder is a resigned priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago.

The Board made the determination that in light of the information presented, there is reason to suspect that the accused has engaged in sexual abuse of a minor, [REDACTED]

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [312] 751-5205.

Sincerely,

  
Leah McCluskey  
Director, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review

*James the  
determined.  
F. Ser  
June 4, 2008  
I would like to see the  
file with [REDACTED] and  
Hoder is a [REDACTED] for me.*

AOC 015008

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of the Archbishop



155 E. Superior St.  
Chicago, Illinois 60611

June 24, 2008

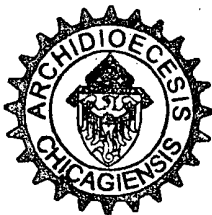
Ms. Leah McCluskey  
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review  
P.O. Box 1979  
Chicago, IL 60690-1979

Dear Ms. McCluskey,

I am writing to you in order to formalize my handwritten note of June 4, 2008 in response to your letter of June 3, 2008, regarding the matter of **Reverend James Hoder**, a priest ordained for the Archdiocese of Chicago who resigned from priestly ministry a number of years ago, and the allegations of sexual misconduct that were made against him by [REDACTED]. This matter was discussed in a Review for Cause by the independent Review Board at their meeting of May 31, 2008.

In accepting the Review Board's determination that there is reason to suspect Sean Stevens was sexually abused by James Hoder, I have decided that the matter requires a further penal process. Since this is a matter which must be referred to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, I will refer the matter to that Congregation and ask for their guidance.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.



Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Francis Cardinal George".

Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I.  
Archbishop of Chicago

*Rev. Richard Lander*  
Ecclesiastical Notary

cc: Very Reverend John F. Canary, Vicar General  
Rev. Daniel A. Smilanic, Cardinal's Delegate  
Rev. Patrick R. Lagges, Judicial Vicar/Vicar for Canonical Services  
Reverend Edward D. Grace, Vicar for Priests  
Mr. Matt Hunnicutt, Assistance Minister  
Mr. Jimmy Lago, Chancellor  
Mr. John C. O'Malley, Director of Legal Services

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office for the Protection of Children and Youth  
Office of Assistance Ministry  
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review  
Safe Environment Office



P. O. Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979  
312-751-5254, general  
312-751-8307, fax

June 26, 2008

FILE COPY

Mr. James Hoder  
C/o Patrick Reardon  
2200 W. Lawrence Ave., Suite 201  
Chicago, Illinois 60625

Dear Mr. Hoder,

Please be advised that the independent Review Board met on May 31, 2008 and conducted a Review for Cause of [REDACTED] allegation of sexual misconduct against you pursuant to Article §1104.10 of the Review Process for Continuation of Ministry.

At a Review for Cause the Review Board determines, based on the information that has been gathered and made available to it, whether there is reasonable cause to suspect that the accused priest engaged in the sexual misconduct of a minor.

In the Review for Cause of this matter on May 31<sup>st</sup>, the Board determined that there is reason to suspect that you did sexually abuse [REDACTED] Cardinal George has accepted the Board's determination.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at any time. I may be reached at [312] 867-8793. Also, please know that your Vicar for Priests Rev. Edward Grace continues to be available to you and may be reached at [312] 642-1837.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leah McCluskey".

Leah McCluskey  
Director, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review

✓ Cc Rev. Edward Grace, Vicar for Priests

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

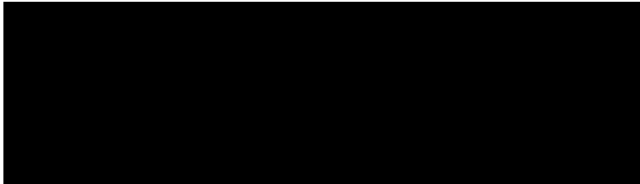
Office for the Protection of Children and Youth  
Office of Assistance Ministry  
Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review  
Safe Environment Office



P. O. Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979  
312-751-5254, general  
312-751-8307, fax

June 26, 2008

FILE COPY



Dear [REDACTED],

Please be advised that the independent Review Board met on May 31, 2008 and conducted a Review for Cause of your allegation of sexual misconduct against the former Rev. James Hoder pursuant to Article §1104.10 of the Review Process for Continuation of Ministry. Mr. Hoder is a resigned priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago.

At a Review for Cause the Review Board determines, based on the information that has been gathered and made available to it, whether there is reasonable cause to suspect that the accused priest engaged in the sexual misconduct of a minor.

In the Review for Cause of this matter on May 31<sup>st</sup>, the Board determined that there is reason to suspect that you were sexually abused by the former Fr. Hoder. Cardinal George has accepted the Board's determination.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at any time. I may be reached at [312] 867-8793. Also, please know that the staff of the Office of Assistance Ministry continues to be available to you and may be reached at [312] 751-8267.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Leah McCluskey".

Leah McCluskey  
Director, Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review

Cc Matt Hunnicutt, Office of Assistance Ministry

Bcc: John O'Malley  
James Serritella

AOC 015011

### Victim Statement Abstract

This abstract replaces email correspondence between Mayra Flores, Assistant Director of the Archdiocese of Chicago's Office of Assistance Ministry, and Victim MM dated May 7, 2009. In the email, Victim MM stated that the process that the Archdiocese has organized to deal with allegations of sexual abuse helped Victim MM heal.

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# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of Canonical Services  
835 N. Rush Street  
Chicago IL 60611-2030

V. Rev. Daniel A. Smilanich JCD  
Vicar for Canonical Services  
(312) 534-8206



PO Box 1979  
Chicago IL 60690-1979  
FAX (312) 534-8314

email dsmlanic@archchicago.org

December 18, 2009

Mr. James A. Hoder



Re: James A. Hoder, prot. n. 290/2009

Dear Mr. Hoder,

We have received from the Congregation For the Doctrine of the Faith the documentation of your return to the lay state, that is, your dismissal from the clerical state. The decree of laicization is effective from the moment of your reception of this letter.

Enclosed please find a photocopy of the original document in Latin and an unofficial translation. The decree provides you the opportunity to attest by your signature that you have received it. I ask you to call me to schedule an appointment to read the decree and sign it. This appointment, which should take no more than thirty minutes, can be scheduled at an ecclesiastical location that is convenient for you. The appointment can be scheduled at a time that is opportune for you. If you fail to schedule an appointment, we will document that fact and the completed paperwork will be forwarded to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, as well as filed in our Chancery. Your failure to sign the decree does not change the effects of it; you are dismissed from the clerical state and dispensed from all the obligations of the clerical state, including celibacy.

Just as notification of your promise of celibacy, your ordination to the diaconate and your ordination to the priesthood was sent to the church of your baptism for recording in the entry that records your baptism, so also will a notification of your return to the lay state be sent there for recording. Furthermore, the current pastor is instructed that whenever a certificate attesting to your baptism is issued, there is not to be any mention of your ordinations and the promise of celibacy. He is instructed to refer any inquiries about your return to the lay state to the Chancellor of the Archdiocese of Chicago.

I would draw your attention to the precepts outlined in paragraph 5 that note, among other things, that the dismissed priest automatically loses all the rights proper to the clerical state and is not longer bound by the obligations connected with the clerical state. The precepts also state clearly that you are excluded from the exercise of the sacred ministry, and that you cannot hold any position in the administration of a parish or that has pastoral responsibility. Also, you are not allowed to teach religion or theology, other than with the permission of the Chancery and in a very limited manner.

If I do not hear from you by three weeks from the date of this letter, that is January 8, 2010, I will presume that you have decided not to schedule an appointment and not to sign the attestation that you have received the decree. It would be helpful if you decide not to sign the attestation, that you send me a short note to that effect.

Please call me at my office, which is (312) 534-8206.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Fr. Dan Smilanich".

V. Rev. Daniel A. Smilanich

AOC 015014

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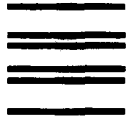
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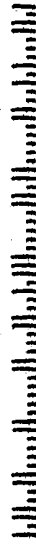
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<p>1. Article Addressed to:</p> <p style="font-size: 1.2em;">James A. Hoder 1100 S. Taylor St. Oak Park, IL 60304</p>		<p>3. Service Type</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certified Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Express Mail</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Registered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt for Merchandise</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Insured Mail <input type="checkbox"/> C.O.D.</p>	
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