

SWIDER, Henry Peter		Date of birth	Ordained
			May 3, 1950
Nationality	Polish		
Date Appointed	Assignment	Charge	Date Left
7-5-50	St. Joseph (Summit)-temporary	Asst.	7-6-60
7-6-60	Holy Innocents - temporary	Asst.	5-10-66
5-10-66	St. Mary of Perpetual Help	Asst.	3/29/67
3/29/67	St. Bridget	Asst.	
	LEFT Jan 1-1969		



Extraordinary Appointments

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# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

(Please type all information)

NAME SWIDER HENRY PETER  
 (last) (first) (middle)

BORN [REDACTED] CHICAGO , ILL. ST. STANISLAUS KOSTKA  
 (date) (city) (state) (parish)

BAPTIZED JAN. 27, 1924 CHICAGO ILL. ST. STANISLAUS KOSTKA  
 (date) (city) (state) (parish)

ORDAINED MAY 3, 1950 MUNDELEIN, ILL. ST. MARY OF THE LAKE SEM.  
 (date) (city) (state) (parish)

ORDAINING PRELATE SAMUEL CARDINAL STRITCH - CHICAGO  
 (name) (diocese)

FIRST SOLEMN MASS MAY 7, 1950 CHICAGO, ILL. ST. WENCESLAUS  
 (date) (city) (state) (parish)

NAME OF FATHER [REDACTED] Living ☒  
 Deceased ☐

NAME OF MOTHER (maiden) [REDACTED] Living ☒  
 Deceased ☐

NATIONALITY: AMERICAN OF POLISH AND SWEDISH EXTRACTION

HOME PARISH: ST. WENCESLAUS

KNOWLEDGE OF MODERN LANGUAGES  
 OTHER THAN ENGLISH:

Reading POLISH - SPANISH  
 Spoken POLISH - SPANISH  
 Confessional Work Only ITALIAN - BOHEMIAN  
CROATIAN

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY NOTIFY:

1. [REDACTED]

2. [REDACTED]

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☐ ☒ ☒

## SCHOOLS ATTENDED:

ELEMENTARY ST. WENCESLAUS CHICAGO ILL 8  
 (name) (city) (state) (years)

SECONDARY QUIGLEY PREPARATORY SEM. CHICAGO 5  
 (name) (city) (state) (years)

(name) (city) (state) (years)

COLLEGE (name) (city) (state) (years)

PHILOSOPHY ST. MARY OF THE LAKE MUNDELEIN 3  
 (name) (city) (state) (years)

THEOLOGY ST. MARY OF THE LAKE MUNDELEIN 4  
 (name) (city) (state) (years)

POST GRADUATE (name) (city) (state) (years)

(name) (city) (state) (years)

(name) (city) (state) (years)

DEGREES EARNED B.A. ST. MARY OF THE LAKE 1946  
 (degree) (college or university) (year)  
M.A. ST. MARY OF THE LAKE 1948  
 (degree) (college or university) (year)  
S.T.L. ST. MARY OF THE LAKE 1950  
 (degree) (college or university) (year)

DEGREES HONORARY (degree) (college or university) (year)

WORKS PUBLISHED (title) (date) (publisher)

(title) (date) (publisher)

(title) (date) (publisher)

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(date)

(date)

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSIGNMENTS:

NATIONAL OR N.C.W.C.

(position) (from) (to)

DIOCESAN

(position) (from) (to)

(position) (from) (to)

(position) (from) (to)

(position) (from) (to)

(position) (from) (to)

PAROCHIAL AND CHAPLAIN ASSIGNMENTS: (Chronological)

ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH ASSISTANT JULY 4, 1950 - JULY 6, 1960  
(position) (from) (to)

SICK LEAVE SEPT 30 1959 - JULY 6, 1960  
(position) (from) (to)

HOLY INNOCENTS' CHURCH ASSISTANT JULY 6, 1960 - 5-1966  
(position) (from) (to)

ST. MARY OF PERPETUAL HELP ASST. PASTOR 5-1966 3/29/67  
(position) (from) (to)

St. Bridget Assistant 3/29/67  
(position) (from) (to)

(position) (from) (to)

St. Crispin's 8-31-72 12-31-72  
(position) (from) (to)

(position) (from) (to)

(position) (from) (to)

(position) (from) (to)

OTHER ASSIGNMENTS: (e.g. Moderator of diocesan organizations, etc.)

(position) (from) (to)

(position) (from) (to)

(position) (from) (to)

(position) (from) (to)

(position) (from) (to)

(position) (from) (to)

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MILITARY SERVICE

(name of service)	(position)	(rank)	(dates)

HOSPITALIZATION INSURANCE

ARCHDIOCESAN GROUP INSURANCE  
(insuring company)

AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY INSURANCE

THE HOME INDEMNITY CO.  
(insuring company)

LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT

NONE  
(date of most recent copy) (place)

Do you have a copy in a sealed envelope on file in the Chancery?

NO

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

PREFERRED PLACE OF BURIAL

NONE

(Filed at the Chancery Office, together with a recent copy of the Will, should be a letter of instructions to be opened at the time of death.)

JAN 12, 1966  
DATE

Jerry P. Swata  
SIGNATURE

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# 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 PFR-57

From: Patricia Zacharias, Assistant Director (AD), Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review (CAIR) PZ

Date: October 10, 2007

Re: Swider, Fr. Henry (deceased) - [REDACTED]

Fr. Richard Klajbor who is the pastor of Holy Innocents parish contacted Mayra Flores of the Office of Assistance Ministry on 10/4/07. He described a phone call he had received at midnight from [REDACTED]. The nature of the call appeared to indicate [REDACTED] had an allegation of sexual abuse as a minor by Fr. Swider (see file.)

Fr. Klajbor called the CAIR office on 10/9/07 and said [REDACTED] had told him that no-one from CAIR had yet contacted him. Matt Hunnicutt of the Office of Assistance Ministry called [REDACTED] and spoke with him briefly (see file). Leah McCluskey spoke with Fr. Klajbor and said that AD would be contacting [REDACTED] the following day. Ms. McCluskey asked AD to call [REDACTED]. She asked AD to follow up with Fr. Klajbor to assure him that contact has been made as [REDACTED] had sought his assistance with communicating with the Archdiocese.

AD called [REDACTED] this morning and spoke with him at length. She briefly described the process to formalize an allegation and asked if he was interested in scheduling a time to meet with her to do so. [REDACTED] stated the following:

- He told Fr. Richard (Klajbor) five years ago about the abuse by Fr. Swider.
- He is now 56 years old [REDACTED]

• [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]
- The abuse occurred between 1961 and 1963 and involved massage and "hand jobs".
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

When asked, [REDACTED] said he did not want to meet with anyone to formalize his allegation. [REDACTED]

He then asked AD to find out if [REDACTED] and to call him back. AD explained that was not her role and that the Office of Legal Services/John O'Malley would be the Office/person for him to contact. [REDACTED] made a comment about not wanting to go through that again, said goodbye and hung up the phone.

AD called Fr. Richard Klajbor and confirmed with him that she had made contact and spoken with [REDACTED]. She said she could not give him other information due to confidentiality. He said he understood.

Fr. Klajbor offered the following information about this matter:

- [REDACTED] came to him about his allegation of abuse against Fr. Swider between 3-5 years ago. He (Fr. Klajbor) contacted the Archdiocese with the information and believes he spoke with someone there, possibly Kathy Leggdas-but he isn't sure.
- [REDACTED] had also spoken with the Archdiocese in the last few years as he mentions John O'Malley's name somewhat frequently.
- [REDACTED] told him that another priest, a Fr. Matt Bednarz, who is deceased, "covered up" abuse by Fr. Swider.

Fr. Klajbor offered the suggestion that parishes should be notified if an accused priest passes away who had been assigned there as it can cause upset among parishioners if they hear about it from other means.

AD thanked Fr. Klajbor for the information and told him he is welcome to call her again if [REDACTED] or any other parishioners have questions or concerns she may be able to respond to.



### Victim Statement Abstract

This abstract replaces the summary prepared by Leah McCluskey, Professional Responsibility Administrator for the Archdiocese of Chicago's Office of Professional Responsibility, of Victim AL's statement, given to Ms. McCluskey on March 10, 2004, formalizing his allegation of sexual abuse against Rev. Henry Swider. The alleged abuse began in approximately 1959 or 1960 and consisted of watching Victim AL undress and fondling Victim AL's genitals when he was a minor. The alleged abuse took place at Holy Innocents parish, on a beach trip, and at the home of a family member of Rev. Swider.

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Office of Professional Fitness Review  
676 N. St. Clair, Suite 1910  
Chicago, Illinois 60611





Post Office Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979

(312) 751-5205  
Fax: (312) 751-5279

**MEMORANDUM**

To: File – PFR-57

From: Leah McCluskey, Interim, Professional Fitness Review Administrator 

Re: **Rev. Henry Swider (Resigned) Response to Allegation of** 

Date: September 24, 2002

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**Date of Interview:** September 13, 2002


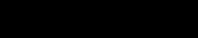
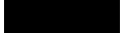
**Time:** 10:00a.m.



**Present at Interview**

Henry Swider [HS], accused  
Ms. Leah McCluskey, Interim, Professional Fitness Review Administrator [PFRA]  
Fr. James Kaczorowski, Vicar for Priests [VP]

**Face-to-Face Interview**

Henry Swider [HS] was approximately 20 minutes late for the 1:00pm scheduled meeting at the Vicar for Priests Office. After introductions were made, PFRA described the responsibilities of the Office of Professional Fitness Review as well as those of PFRA.

PFRA read the allegations of sexual misconduct against HS, which were made by   
 HS began his response by giving PFRA and VP a brief history of his assignments. HS was ordained in 1950 and since his retirement, he spends eight months out of the year in Acapulco where he stays in a condominium. From approximately the end of July until the end of November/early December, HS stays in the Chicago area. HS was diagnosed with  in July of 1959. As a result of his illness, HS took a one-year leave of absence and resided in Acapulco until June of 1960 when he returned to active ministry.

HS confirmed that he was assigned to Holy Innocents Parish in Chicago during the 1960s. He stated that Fr. Claude Klarowski was the pastor and that Fr. Tony Janiak was present at the parish as well. HS specified that Fr. Janiak was “in charge” of funerals at the time. HS stated that while he was at Holy Innocents, there was no “Fr. Al” assigned there, as stated by  In regards to  HS stated that he does not remember him.

AOC 005841

When asked if he recalls going to classrooms to call altar servers out of class to serve at funerals, HS stated that he never called any servers for funerals. HS added that "the nuns ran the altar boys" and that the nuns would send servers to the church for funerals. In regards to physically touching altar boys, HS stated that he did not [REDACTED] HS does recall driving to cemeteries in the hertz [driven by [REDACTED]] "many times with altar servers in the car."

PFRA and VP then asked HS if he owned a boat. HS stated that he did own a boat that was docked at Montrose Harbor in Lake Michigan. When asked if anyone was ever on the boat with him, HS stated that he often invited other priests and families [from the parish] to spend time on the boat. HS also noted that several individuals had keys to the dinghy to get to the boat so that they would be able to use it when he was not present. PFRA then specifically asked HS if recalls inviting boys onto the boat with him. HS took much time to answer this question and was seemingly elusive. Eventually, HS stated that he remembered inviting boys onto the boat, but does not recall bringing "altar boys" onto the boat. VP then pointed out to HS that most boys in grammar school at the time were altar servers. HS did not respond to VP's comment. PFRA then asked HS to clarify where he met the boys that he brought onto the boat, if they were from the parish, family friends, etc. Instead of responding to PFRA's direct request for clarification, HS again began to talk about inviting different priests and families onto his boat.

HS clarified that he did own a white 1965 Mercedes. When asked by VP if he ever picked up or transported boys to his boat in his Mercedes, HS stated that he did not.

In regards to allegations of oral sex, pornography, masturbation, and ejaculation made by [REDACTED] HS denied all accounts. HS further stated that he denies all allegations of sexual misconduct made against him.

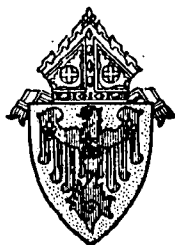
VP asked HS if he recalls being notified by Pat O'Malley in 1992 when this allegation of sexual misconduct made by [REDACTED] first surfaced. HS stated that this is the first that he has heard of these allegations and that he never met Pat O'Malley.

Both PFRA and VP asked [REDACTED] where either office could reach him in the future. As of the date of September 13, 2002, [REDACTED] did not know where in Chicago he would be residing, as he was directed by VP to move from the parish where he was residing while in Chicago. [REDACTED] stated that he would notify VP where he would be staying in Chicago within the week. After late November or early December, HS confirmed that he could be reached at the following address:

[REDACTED]

Acapulco, Guerrero, Mexico [REDACTED]

Cc: Review Board Members  
Rev. Thomas J. Paprocki, Cardinal's Delegate to the Review Board  
Rev. James Kaczorowski, Vicar for Priests  
Victim Assistance Ministry  
John O'Malley, Legal Services



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

645 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, SUITE 543

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

Off: (312) 642-1837

Fax: (312) 642-4933

Oct., 1999

Mr. Henry Swider

██████████  
Acapulco, Guerrero MEXICO ██████████

Dear Henry,

When we met on October 12<sup>th</sup> you raised the issue of the discontinuation of your monthly gift pension checks from the Archdiocese. I explained that they had been discontinued with the authorization of Bishop Raymond Goedert, Vicar General, while the allegation of ██████████ was under consideration. I told you that you would be notified when a final decision had been reached.

On October 25<sup>th</sup> the Professional Conduct Administrative Committee met to consider this issue. Our discussion included the following points:

- The Vicar for Priests Office has on file an allegation that was brought forward against you in 1992. The details of the allegation are very similar to those brought forward by ██████████. The earlier allegation certainly adds to the significance of the latter.
- You acknowledged in your meeting with Kathleen Leggdas and myself that you are not able to say that you did not engage in the behaviors mentioned in the ██████████ allegation.
- The Archdiocese is currently working toward ██████████
- It would be appropriate for you to share in the cost ██████████ but you have indicated that you have few financial resources.

In light of all this, the Professional Conduct Administrative Committee has determined it is appropriate to cancel your gift pension. The gift pension monies will now be diverted ██████████

Henry, I know this is not the decision you wanted. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

  
Rev. Lawrence P. McBrady  
Vicar for Priests

AOC 005843

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## ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of Professional Fitness Review  
676 N. St. Clair, Suite 1910  
Chicago, IL 60611



(312)751-5205  
1-800-994-6200  
Fax (312)751-5279

### Memorandum

### CORRECTED

Memo to File: PFR-57  
From: Kathleen Leggdas, Administrator *KL*  
Re: Mr. Henry Swider  
Date: October 19, 1999

On Tuesday, October 12, 1999, Father Larry McBrady, Vicar for Priests and PFRA met with Mr. Henry Swider regarding an allegation against him of sexual misconduct with a minor made by [REDACTED] Mr. Swider was ordained in 1950 and resigned from the priesthood in 1972. He was Associate Pastor at Holy Innocents Parish from 1960 to July of 1966.

He reports that for all practical purposes he has been retired since 1969 when he asked Cardinal Cody for a one-year leave of absence. Cardinal gave him an "unlimited leave." After 1½ years H.S. received a call to assist at St. Casimir. He was robbed and stabbed by a group of three men. The hospitalization and ongoing fear for his personal safety delayed his decision/return indefinitely, resulting in his full resignation in 1972.

H.S. had no recollection of [REDACTED]. He stated that he occasionally had boys answer the telephone in the rectory and that they might have watched TV in his room, etc. but he was very vague in his responses – stating mostly that the details of the allegation regarding oral sex and mutual masturbation "were not incidents he could recollect."

He denied participating in sexual activity with any minors. Later he said that he had been hospitalized [REDACTED]. He did experience black outs and said that the allegations of sexual misconduct "could have been alcohol related," but are not incidents he can recall at this time.

Father McBrady informed H.S. that [REDACTED] is represented by Attorney [REDACTED]. H.S. said his financial resources are limited:

- \$480.00 per month from the Archdiocese for the 20 + retirement plan was temporarily discontinued as of August 1999
- \$365.00 per month from rental property
- no other or fixed income or Medicare benefits are available to him.

H.S. was informed of a similar allegation on file in the Vicar's office which raises the issue of H.S. credibility. He had no comments regarding specifics of either allegation. He did have a boat in Montrose Harbor at the time of the previous allegation. He also had a membership to the [REDACTED] Health Club named in the second allegation.

Other than the possibility of these events occurring under the influence, Mr. Swider was unable to respond to specifics of either allegation.

Cc: Review Board Members  
Rev. Thomas J. Paprocki, Cardinal's Delegate to the Review Board  
Rev. Larry McBrady, Vicar for Priests  
Mr. John O'Malley, Legal Services  
Mr. Jim Serritella, Attorney

AOC 005844

### Victim Statement Abstract

This abstract replaces the summary prepared by Ralph Bonaccorsi, Director of the Office of Assistance Ministry of the Archdiocese of Chicago, and Bernadette Connolly, of Victim AM's statement, given to Mr. Bonaccorsi and Ms. Connolly on August 6, 1997, formalizing his allegation of sexual abuse against Fr. Henry Swider. According to Victim AM's statement, he came to know Fr. Swider at Holy Innocents in 1964 when he was 14 years old. Victim AM reported that Fr. Swider invited him to the rectory and asked him to look at pornography. Fr. Swider fondled Victim AM's penis over his clothes at least 10-15 times. On other occasions, he performed oral sex on Victim AM and masturbated him. Sometimes, Fr. Swider provided alcohol to Victim AM and promised him a trip to Mexico (where Swider was living at the time the statement was made to Mr. Bonaccorsi). Victim AM reported that the sexual abuse occurred at Holy Innocents parish rectory and a local health club.

### Victim Statement Abstract

This abstract replaces the memoranda prepared by Fr. Patrick O'Malley, regarding Victim AX's statement, given to Fr. O'Malley on July 3, 1992, reporting his allegation of sexual abuse against Fr. Henry Swider. According to Victim AX's report, he was sexually abused by Fr. Swider in approximately 1967, when he was approximately 12 years old. Victim AX reported that Fr. Swider took him out on a boat in Lake Michigan and forced him to masturbate and Fr. Swider performed oral sex on him. Other sexual abuse by Fr. Swider continued for a year or two.

Rev. Henry P. Swider '50.

Summary of file

June 27, 1950: Assigned as Vic. coop. St. Joseph Church, Summit.

October, 1959: Left on sick leave of absence to Zapata, Texas, and soon thereafter to Irapuato, Mexico, recuperating from [REDACTED]

December, 1959: He writes to Cardinal Meyer asking for \$75.00 monthly salary in Irapuato.

December 23, 1959: Msgr. Casey writes to him, stating that he is authorizing \$75.00 monthly stipend from the Infirm Priests' Fund. First check enclosed.

April 12, 1960: Swider writes Card. Meyer advising that the cold weather in Irapuato brought head colds on him, and that he has moved to Acapulco. He thanks H.E. for the \$75.00 monthly stipend from last December, but requests additional \$150.00 to cover months of preceeding October, November.

April 25, 1960: Msgr. Casey forwards check of extra \$150.00.

June, 1960: Swider returns to Chicago.

June 30, 1960: Transferred to V.C., Holy Innocents Church (Armour St.).

May 10, 1966: Transferred to V.C., St. Mary of Perp. Help Church.

March 29, 1967: Transferred to V.C., St. Bridget Church.

December 2, 1969: Card. grants indefinite leave of absence. "I must have time to recharge my batteries both spiritual and physical... After a year I shall return here to serve the people of God in any way you see fit."

January 22, 1970: Card. writes asking to be posted. No answer.

Aug. 18, 1971: Attorney seeks Cardinal's help to retrieve \$1000 which his client paid Fr. Swider for his motor boat in Montrose Harbor.

Aug. 27, 1971: Card. writes to Swider asking his intentions within the priesthood. No answer.

Sept. 4, 1971: Swider is stabbed and robbed on a CTA platform in Chicago hospitalized 8 days.

June 12, 1972: He writes H.E. from Acapulco stating that he will be in Chicago from end of June until October or November, plans on returning to Acapulco.

Aug. 7, 1972: He writes H.E. from Chicago, requesting faculties to serve at St. Casimir's, will return to Acapulco in December. Motive: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Aug. 31, 1972: Interview with Fr. Keating: Faculties granted to reside and serve in St. Casimir's until Dec. 31, 1972. No approval for further sick leave this winter. Decision to be made later by H.E.



MEMORANDUM

August 31, 1972

(16)  
9/10/72  
Do - call him  
in J

TO: HIS EMINENCE  
FROM: FR. KEATING  
RE: FR. HENRY SWIDER

At my request Father Swider came to my office to explain his situation and plans. He has spent the last three winters on extended leave in Acapulco. There he owns a condominium. He never presented himself to the local Bishop there, for he has not functioned as a priest.

He looked remarkably healthy, spoke often of his money and possessions, stocks and bonds, Merceds-Benz auto, motor boat, land acquisition near Acapulco airport, reconsidered \$10,000 donation to Benedictine monastery in Cuernavaca, etc.

My impression is that his sick-leave patterns of the last few years are clearly without bona fide justification and he should be faced with the sharp alternatives of either assuming a full assignment in the Archdiocese or resigning. This I think is necessary both for his own moral recuperation and for the general good of Chicago priests, some of whom have taken grave offense at Swider's situation.

He is temporarily authorized to reside and serve at St. Casimir's, until Dec. 31, 1972. He was given to understand clearly that he needs explicit permission of Your Eminence for further sick leave. He said that he would seek approval of his plans later this year.

To: His Eminence Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I.  
From: V. Costello  
Re: Henry Swider (Class of 1950 – resigned)  
Date: January 19, 2007

Your Eminence:

After your meeting with the PRMAA Board you asked me about Henry Swider. You also gave me a tape that he sent to you along with a memo from Dan Flens who had listened to the tape. Henry is down on his luck and wants some money, about \$19,000 to be more precise. I looked through Henry's files. There were two of them. Let me summarize what I discovered.

Henry was ordained in 1950. He had a variety of assignments. Most of what he said in his tape seems to conform to the information we have in his file. In 1994, when Henry turned 70, Cardinal Bernardin granted him a gift pension. I think you need to know a few things that he did not mention.

The "motu proprio" that suspended his gift pension, and to which Henry refers in his taped message, came from Larry McBrady. Larry did this upon the recommendation of the PCAC. That recommendation came during October 2000, when the archdiocese was in the process of settling a financial claim with a victim of Henry's. Ray Goedert, who was Vicar General at the time, accepted the recommendation. The logic behind the decision seems to have been that since the archdiocese was spending a great deal on the settlement it seemed appropriate that Swider should share in the cost. I have included Larry McBrady's letter to Swider along with this memo.

You should also know that at least three allegations of sexual misconduct made against Swider appear to have been considered substantiated. Although I cannot find all the information I need in my files I know that the archdiocese [REDACTED] [REDACTED] In February 2003 you accepted a PFRB finding of "reasonable cause to suspect" that Swider sexually abused [REDACTED] In October 2005 the Board sent you a third finding (7-0) vote that he abused [REDACTED] My file does not contain your response. [REDACTED]

In the spring of 2005 the archdiocese helped Swider with hospital bills to the tune of \$4,953.32.

In October 2003 his pension was reinstated.

I have included some notes that appear to have been made by Dick Keating. They also might assist you in making a decision about Swider. However, if you want my input I would not give him anything more than he is currently receiving.

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of Professional Responsibility





P.O. Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979

(312) 751-5205  
Fax: (312) 751-5279

## MEMORANDUM




To: File - PFR-57

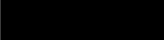

From: Leah McCluskey, Professional Responsibility Administrator 

Re: Swider, Henry [Resigned] 

Date: March 3, 2004

---

PRA received a phone call today from  who stated that he wanted to ensure that the priest who abused him [as a minor] was recorded by the Archdiocese of Chicago.  then referred to the media coverage of the John Jay study last weekend, which prompted his call to the Office of Professional Responsibility. He then disclosed to PRA that he was sexually abused by [the former] Rev. Henry Swider when he was in  at Holy Innocents parish between 1959 and 1960.

 accepted PRA's request to inform him of the purpose and function of the Office of Professional Responsibility. As a result,  agreed to schedule a meeting with PRA so that he could formalize his allegation against Mr. Henry Swider. It was agreed that the meeting would take place at 10:00am on Wednesday, March 10, 2004.

When asked by PRA,  stated that his date of birth is 

AOC 005850

# 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-57 (Corrected PFR number)

From: Patricia Zacharias, Assistant Director (AD) Office of Child Abuse Investigations and Review (CAIR) 12

Re: Henry Peter Swider (deceased) (resigned) – unidentified (third party allegation)

Date: September 7, 2007

AD spoke with a female caller today who identified herself as the sister of a man whose life is ruined from being abused by Henry Peter Swider. She said the abuse occurred at Holy Innocents parish. She said the abuse had a real impact on her brother as well as the rest of the family. She said she was calling because she was seeking information on the accused as well as she wanted to alert the Archdiocese of Chicago that the accused is a sexual predator of children.

AD explained that she could not disclose information that the caller was seeking such as the date of birth of the accused and where the accused is currently living.

The caller said she was able to access the Internet while she and AD were on the phone together. AD then guided her to the Archdiocesan website and helped her locate the list of priests with a substantiated allegation against them. She was able to locate the accused on the list.

The caller appeared to have some difficulty understanding some of the information AD was able to share with her. She sounded upset and had trouble understanding the meaning of a substantiated allegation as well as AD not being able to give her the information she was asking for.

She declined to share her own identity or that of her brother. She did agree to allow AD to explain her office briefly as well as the Office of Assistance Ministry. She did appear to navigate to the website information about those offices when AD asked if she would be willing to do so.

AD explained that she and the Office of Assistance Ministry are available to try to help if her brother chooses to contact them. She said she did not know if he would be willing to do so or not. It was not clear to AD if she would or would not share this information with her brother.

AD asked the caller if she wanted to give her more information at this time as she had said vague language several times about filing a complaint. She said she did not and that she had AD's contact information from the website and would call again if she wanted further information.

# Phone Conversation – PFR-57

Date: 7/26/99 Time: 10:55 a.m.

From: Henry Swider

- Calling in from Acapulco Mexico – 011-52-74-484-4838. Called collect. PFRA called back and operator said number is not in service. Just received letters.

Date: 7/27/99 Time: 2:30 p.m.

To: H.S./Acapulco

Date: 8/11/99 Time: 9:10 a.m.

From: Larry McBrady/VP

- New local address for H. Swider – c/o [REDACTED]

Date: 9/9/99 Time: 11:00 a.m.

From: Henry Swider in Acapulco Mexico 011-52-74-84-4838

- Received message re attempts to contact him.

Date: 9/10/99 Time: 10:00 a.m.

To: Henry Swider

- called/no answer.
- Planning to be in Chicago 1<sup>st</sup> week of October – will call when he gets into town and meet.

Time: 10:05 a.m.

To: John O'Malley/Jim Serritella

Date: 9/22/99 Time: 4:20 p.m.

From: Jim Serritella

Date: 10/12/99 Time: A.M.

To: Fr. Paprocki

- New allegation and H.S. meeting.

Date: 10/18/99 Time: 5:32 p.m.

- Re: Memo to file on HS – Ordained in 1950 not 1960.

Date: 10/26/99 Time: 9:40 a.m.

To: Fr. McBrady/VP

- Clarification that LMcB would write letter to H. Swider.
- LNP to fax Swider's address.
-

## Memorandum

Memo to File: PFR-57  
From: Kathleen Leggdas, Administrator  
Re: Henry Swider  
Date: October 21, 1999

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Summary of discussion from the Professional Fitness Review Board Meeting on October 16, 1999:

Allegation of [REDACTED] presented to the Board as well as H.S. response. Board Members requested that PFRA obtain the following:

- First allegation information from Vicar for Priests Office.
- Detail of report of allegation taken by Bernadette Connelly.

Members asked that it be noted that attorney settlement efforts again preceded Board review of allegation.

Case review to be scheduled for November 20, 1999 Board Meeting.

# 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 PFR-57

From: Patricia Zacharias, Assistant Director (AD), Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review (CAIR) PZ

Date: October 10, 2007

Re: Swider, Fr. Henry (deceased) - [REDACTED]

Fr. Richard Klajbor who is the pastor of Holy Innocents parish contacted Mayra Flores of the Office of Assistance Ministry on 10/4/07. He described a phone call he had received at midnight from [REDACTED]. The nature of the call appeared to indicate [REDACTED] had an allegation of sexual abuse as a minor by Fr. Swider (see file.)

Fr. Klajbor called the CAIR office on 10/9/07 and said [REDACTED] had told him that no-one from CAIR had yet contacted him. Matt Hunnicutt of the Office of Assistance Ministry called [REDACTED] and spoke with him briefly (see file). Leah McCluskey spoke with Fr. Klajbor and said that AD would be contacting [REDACTED] the following day. Ms. McCluskey asked AD to call [REDACTED]. She asked AD to follow up with Fr. Klajbor to assure him that contact has been made as [REDACTED] had sought his assistance with communicating with the Archdiocese.

AD called [REDACTED] this morning and spoke with him at length. She briefly described the process to formalize an allegation and asked if he was interested in scheduling a time to meet with her to do so. [REDACTED] stated the following:

- He told Fr. Richard (Klajbor) five years ago about the abuse by Fr. Swider.
- He is now 56 years old and has been through a lot in his life. He has been in prison. He has been offered counseling regarding this issue in the past.
- His mother, whom he told about the abuse, asked him not to speak of it while she was alive. She is now deceased.



- His aunt [REDACTED] who was a secretary for the parish and very involved with parish activities is also now deceased.
- The abuse occurred between 1961 and 1963 and involved massage and "hand jobs".
- He has been trying to get a settlement from the Archdiocese for seven years now. He has called John O'Malley.
- He is a "broke" person with no money and does not want to hire an attorney. The Archdiocese has told him he should hire an attorney.
- He is tired of the run around he gets from people at the Archdiocese and he will either go to the media or keep calling people at the Archdiocese.
- In addition to Fr. Richard, he also told a priest at the prison where he was incarcerated about the abuse. The priest told him there wasn't anything he could do about it.
- He is not going to waste any more of his time trying to communicate with the Archdiocese.

When asked, [REDACTED] said he did not want to meet with anyone to formalize his allegation. He said, "You people have ruined me."

He then asked AD to find out if she could offer him a settlement and to call him back. AD explained that was not her role and that the Office of Legal Services/John O'Malley would be the Office/person for him to contact. [REDACTED] made a comment about not wanting to go through that again, said goodbye and hung up the phone.

AD called Fr. Richard Klajbor and confirmed with him that she had made contact and spoken with [REDACTED]. She said she could not give him other information due to confidentiality. He said he understood.

Fr. Klajbor offered the following information about this matter:

- [REDACTED] came to him about his allegation of abuse against Fr. Swider between 3-5 years ago. He (Fr. Klajbor) contacted the Archdiocese with the information and believes he spoke with someone there, possibly Kathy Leggdas-but he isn't sure.
- [REDACTED] had also spoken with the Archdiocese in the last few years as he mentions John O'Malley's name somewhat frequently.
- [REDACTED] told him that another priest, a Fr. Matt Bednarz, who is deceased, "covered up" abuse by Fr. Swider.

Fr. Klajbor offered the suggestion that parishes should be notified if an accused priest passes away who had been assigned there as it can cause upset among parishioners if they hear about it from other means.



AD thanked Fr. Klajbor for the information and told him he is welcome to call her again if [REDACTED] or any other parishioners have questions or concerns she may be able to respond to.

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of Professional Fitness Review  
676 N. St. Clair, Suite 1910  
Chicago, IL 60611



(312)751-5205  
1-800-994-6200  
Fax (312)751-5279

## Memorandum

**CORRECTED**

Memo to File: PFR-57  
From: Kathleen Leggdas, Administrator *KL*  
Re: Mr. Henry Swider  
Date: October 19, 1999

On Tuesday, October 12, 1999, Father Larry McBrady, Vicar for Priests and PFRA met with Mr. Henry Swider regarding an allegation against him of sexual misconduct with a minor made by [REDACTED] Mr. Swider was ordained in 1950 and resigned from the priesthood in 1972. He was Associate Pastor at Holy Innocents Parish from 1960 to July of 1966.

He reports that for all practical purposes he has been retired since 1969 when he asked Cardinal Cody for a one-year leave of absence. Cardinal gave him an "unlimited leave." After 1½ years H.S. received a call to assist at St. Casimir. He was robbed and stabbed by a group of three men. The hospitalization and ongoing fear for his personal safety delayed his decision/return indefinitely, resulting in his full resignation in 1972.

H.S. had no recollection of Tom Czesak. He stated that he occasionally had boys answer the telephone in the rectory and that they might have watched TV in his room, etc. but he was very vague in his responses – stating mostly that the details of the allegation regarding oral sex and mutual masturbation "were not incidents he could recollect."

He denied participating in sexual activity with any minors. Later he said that he had been hospitalized in 1982 at the New Life Center where he was treated for alcoholism. He did experience black outs and said that the allegations of sexual misconduct "could have been alcohol related," but are not incidents he can recall at this time.

Father McBrady informed H.S. that [REDACTED] is represented by Attorney Cesar Tabet who is negotiating a financial settlement with the Archdiocese. H.S. said his financial resources are limited:

- \$480.00 per month from the Archdiocese for the 20 + retirement plan was temporarily discontinued as of August 1999
- \$365.00 per month from rental property
- no other or fixed income or Medicare benefits are available to him.

H.S. was informed of a similar allegation on file in the Vicar's office which raises the issue of H.S. credibility. He had no comments regarding specifics of either allegation. He did have a boat in Montrose Harbor at the time of the previous allegation. He also had a membership to the Vic Tanney Health Club named in the second allegation.

Other than the possibility of these events occurring under the influence, Mr. Swider was unable to respond to specifics of either allegation.

Cc: Review Board Members  
Rev. Thomas J. Paprocki, Cardinal's Delegate to the Review Board  
Rev. Larry McBrady, Vicar for Priests  
Mr. John O'Malley, Legal Services  
Mr. Jim Serritella, Attorney

AOC 005859

*File*

PB NOTES

December 4, 1959

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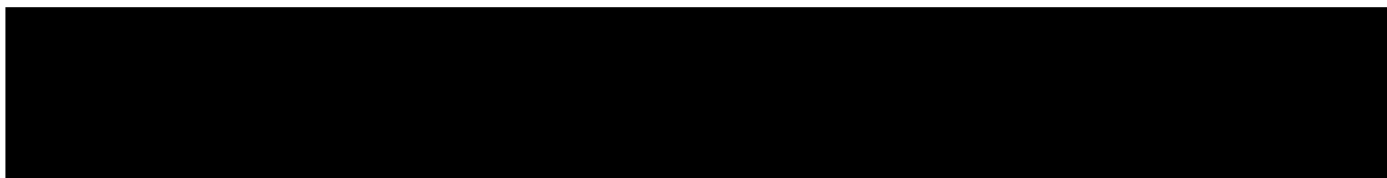
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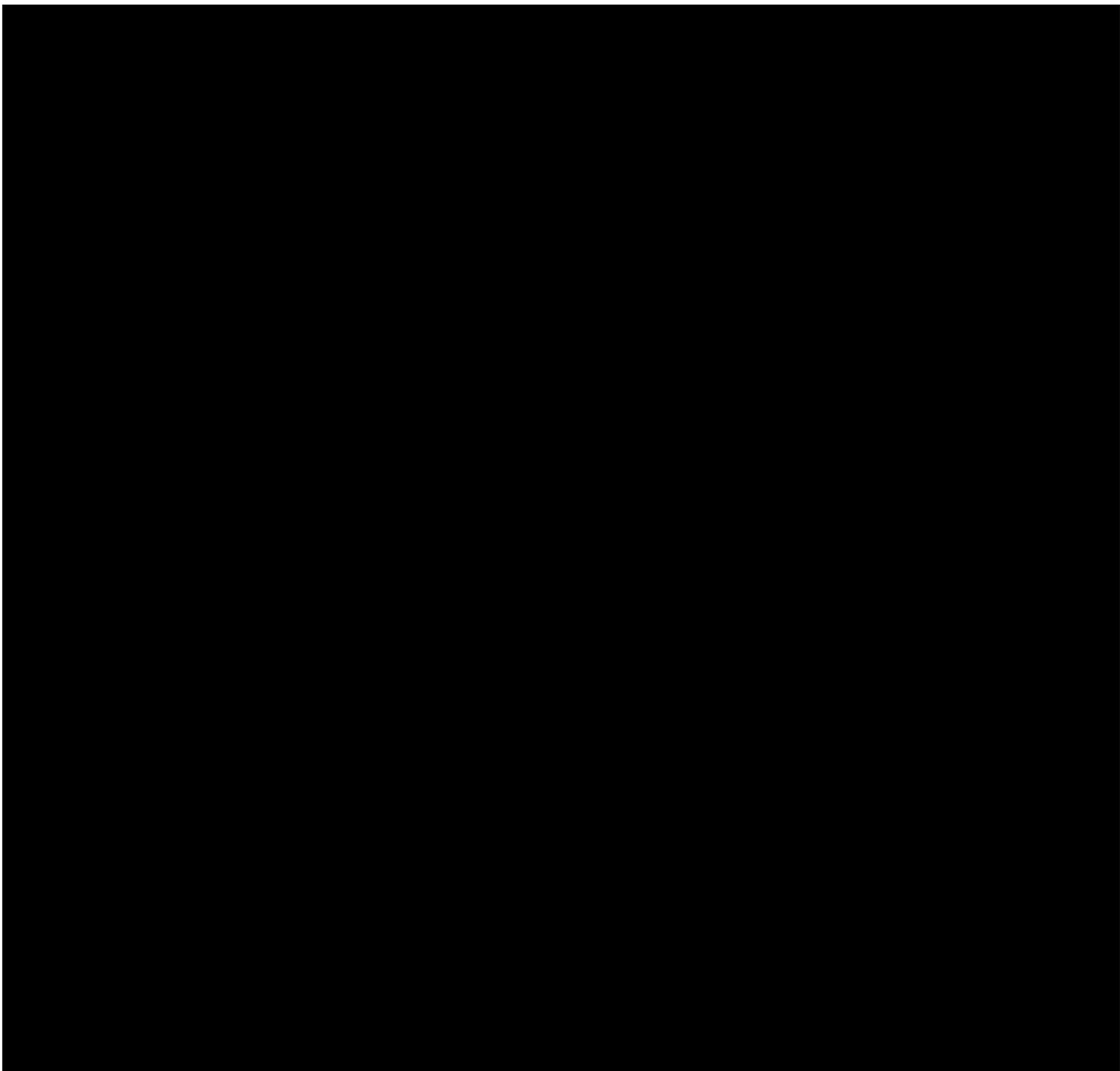
-246-

6.



7. Concerning Henry Swider. Jerome Brzozowski stated to Cardiff in the Chancery Office that Henry Swider had asked the Cardinal for a couple of months to walk along the beach at Acapulco to try to straighten out things. He stated that he was not planning to marry nor to leave the Priesthood. The Cardinal gave him this permission, according to Father Brzozowski.

8.



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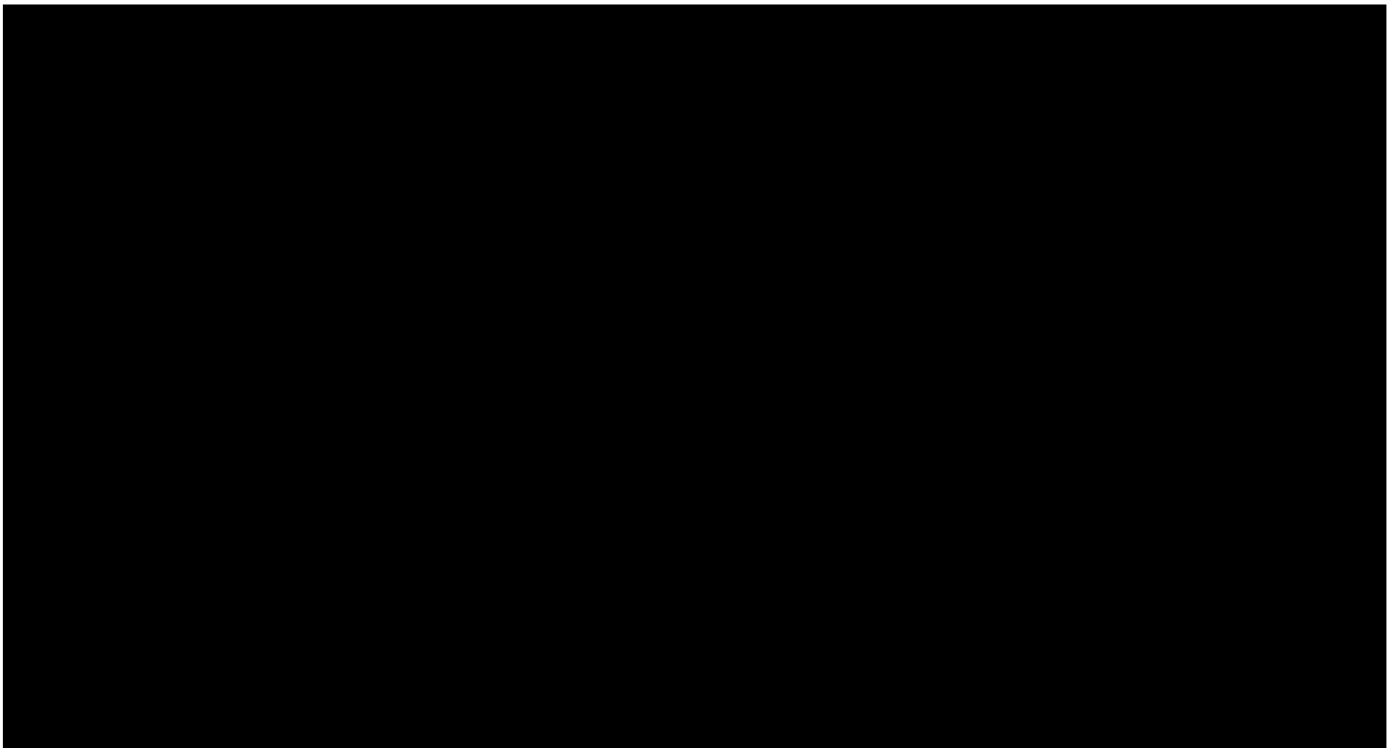
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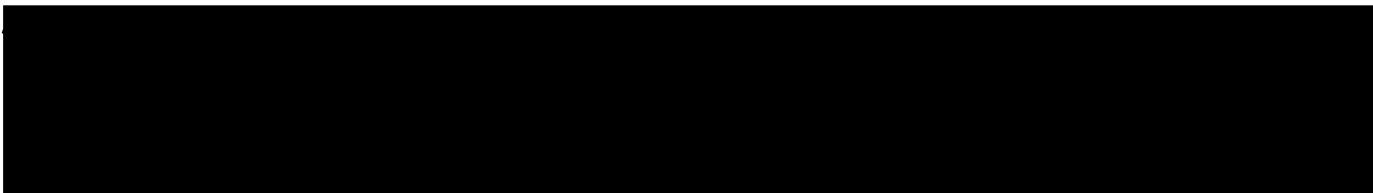
[REDACTED]

12.

[REDACTED]



13.



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*file*

ARCHDIOCESAN PERSONNEL BOARD

MINUTES  
MEETING NUMBER 109  
MONDAY, JUNE 23, 1969

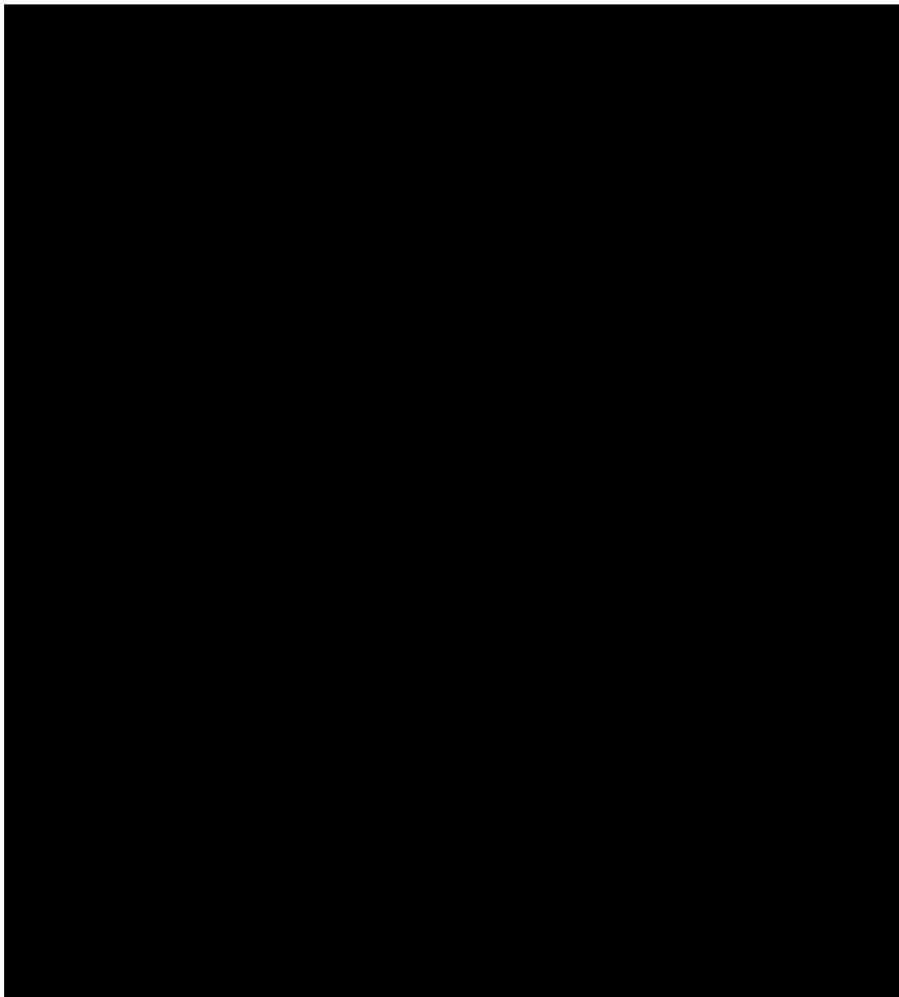
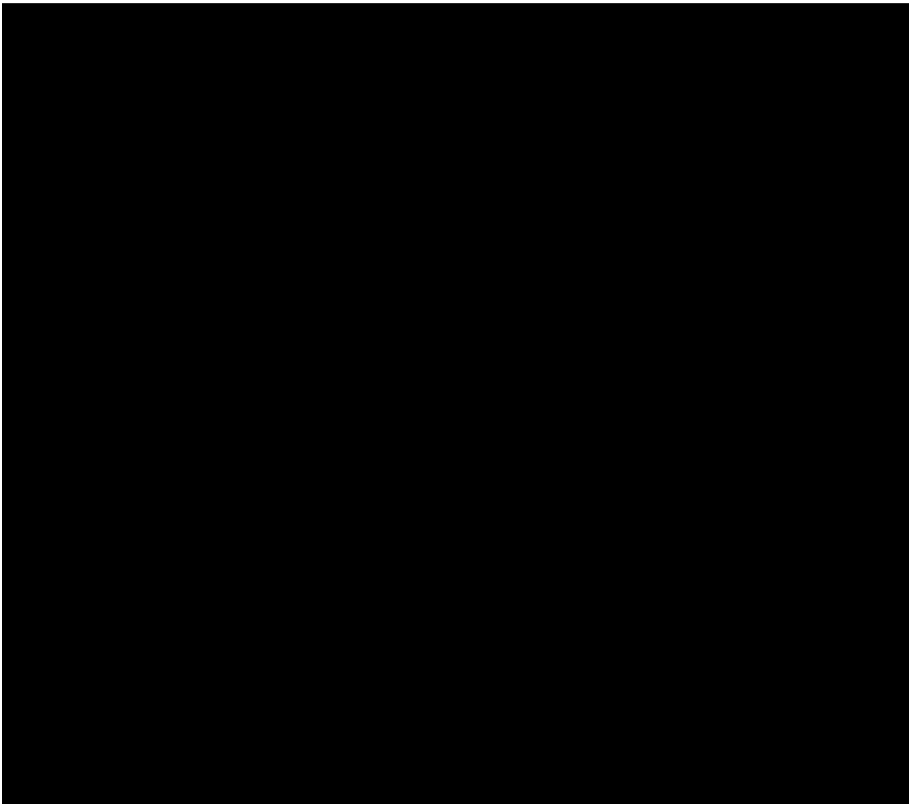
Meeting: June 23, 1969  
Place: Personnel Board Office  
Time: 10:40 A.M.  
Present: All except J. May and R. Vanecko who came later.

- I. Minutes - Approved.
- II. Agenda - Approved with some changes
- III. Reports:

- 1. [REDACTED]
- 2. W. Chelminski: Wants H. Swider to move; wants a young man.
- 3. [REDACTED]
- 4. [REDACTED]
- 5. [REDACTED]
- 6. [REDACTED]
- 7. [REDACTED]
- 8. [REDACTED]
- 9. [REDACTED]
- 10. [REDACTED]

IV. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

*I-258-  
6-23-69  
(109)*



V. Adjournment at 3:45 P.M.

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I-259-  
6-23-69  
(109)

*file*

ARCHDIOCESAN PERSONNEL BOARD

MINUTES

Meeting No. *11* - Second Board

Meeting: Friday, October 24, 1969

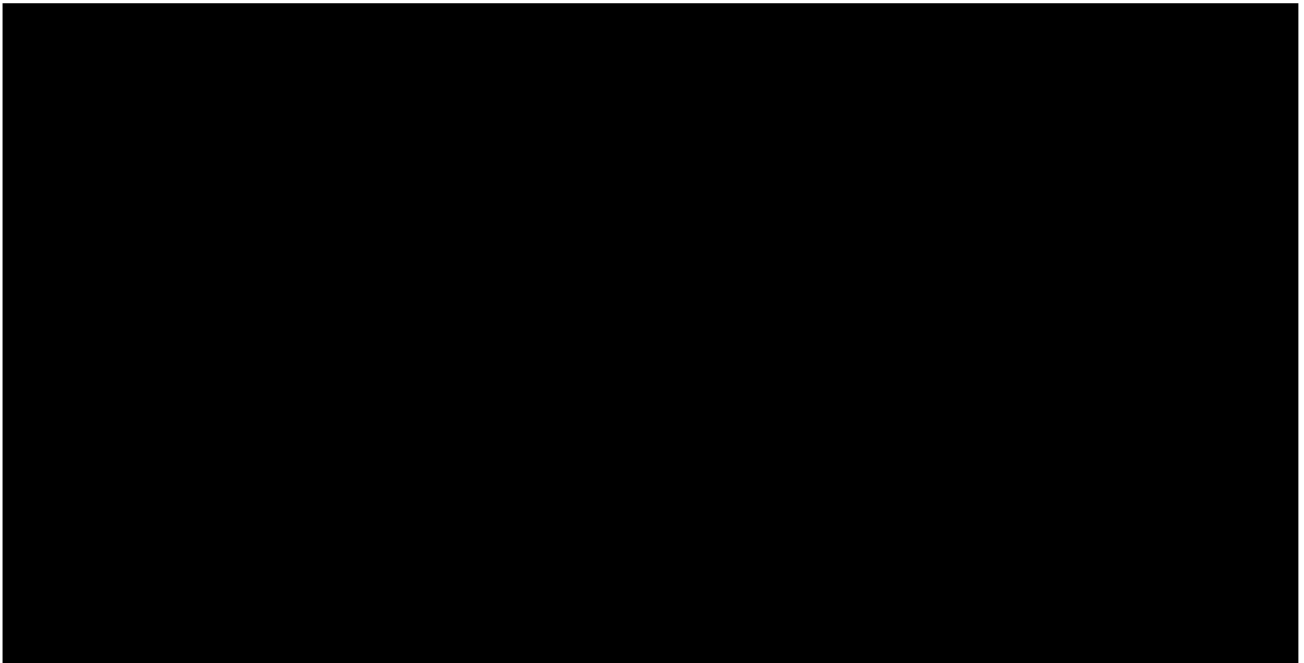
Place: Personnel Board Office

Time: 10:30 A.M.

Absent: J. Dolan and J. Cardiff

I. Minutes of Meeting No. 10, approved.

II. Reports:



Consultations:



Henry Swider feels that his going to St. Josaphat would not work out (Question was raised as to whether there was a confrontation between Chelminski and Swider).

*II-31*

[REDACTED]

III.

[REDACTED]

IV.

[REDACTED]

V.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



VI. Meeting adjourned at 2:45 P.M.

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file

ARCHDIOCESAN PERSONNEL BOARD

MINUTES

Meeting No. 14 - Second Board

Meeting: Friday, November 14, 1969

Place: Personnel Board Office

Time: 10:30 A.M.

Absent: M. Roche

1. Minutes of Meeting No. 13, Approved.

2. Reports:

Consultations

[REDACTED]

Re: Henry Swider to St. Monica - Roche reports that Henry told him he is planning to leave and intends to write the Cardinal about it.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

3.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

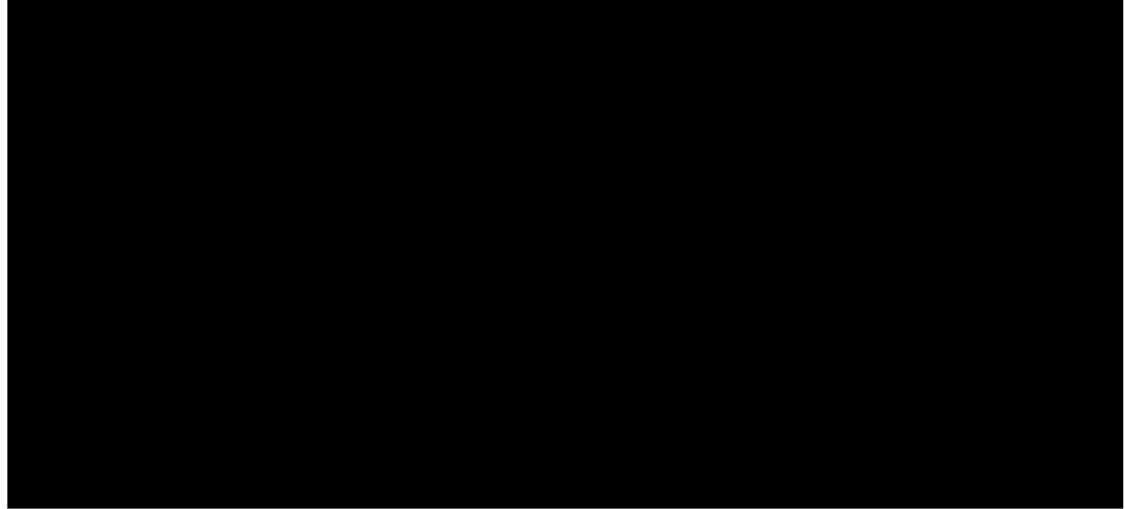
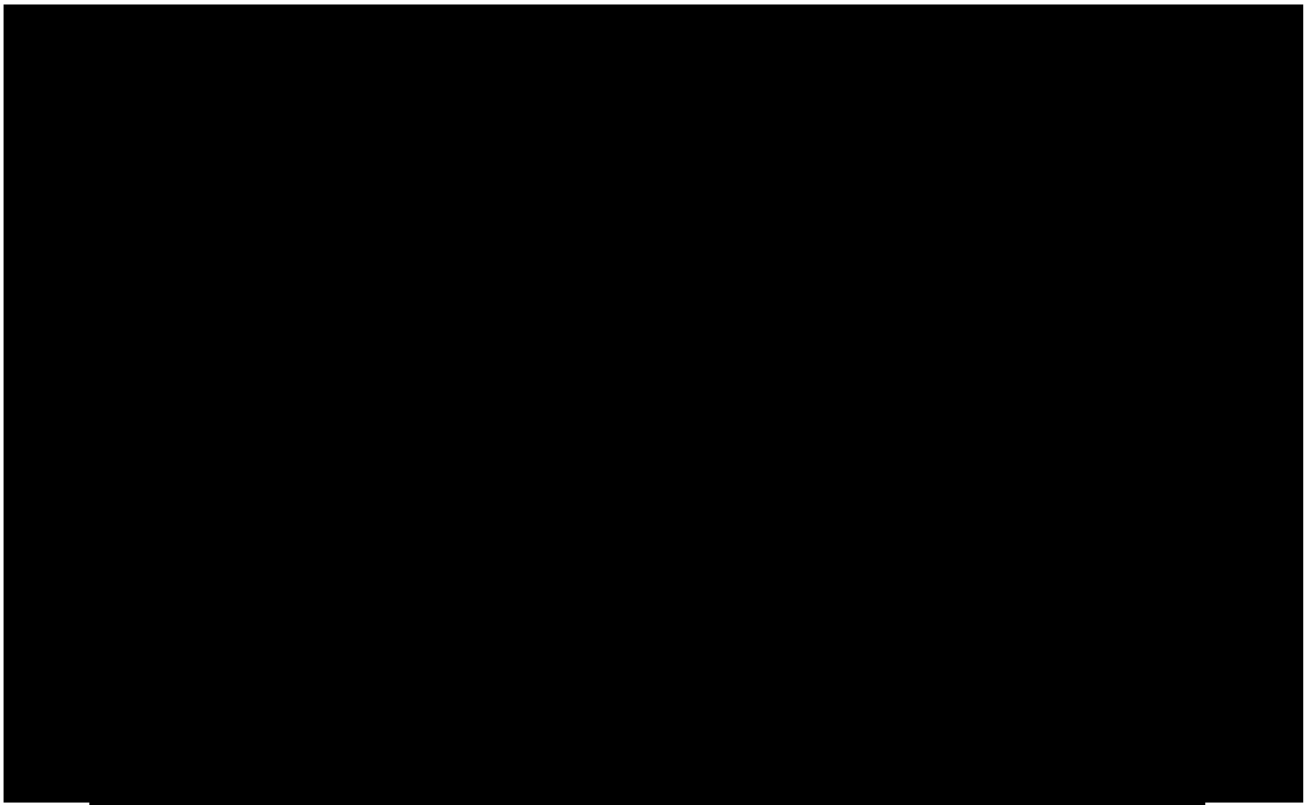
[REDACTED]

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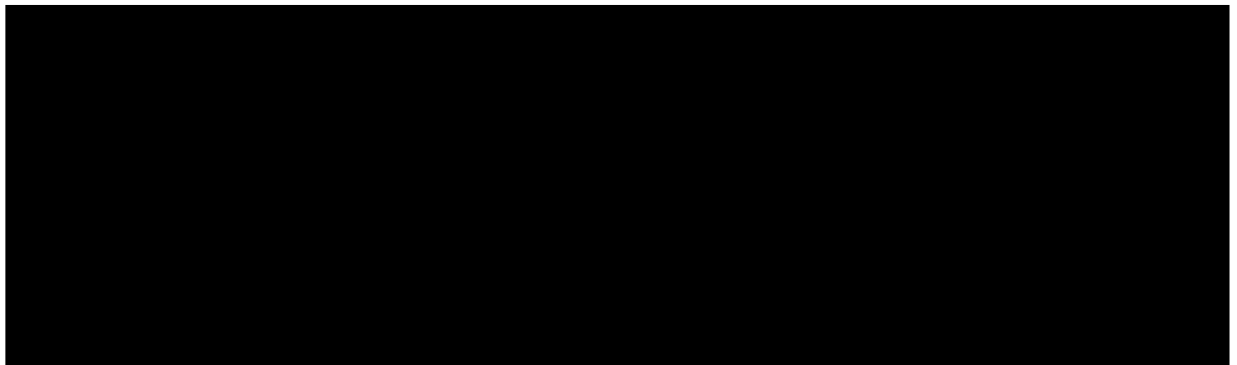
[REDACTED]

II-41




9.

9a.



II-42





10. Meeting adjourned at 3:45 P.M.

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ARCHDIOCESAN PERSONNEL BOARD

*file*

MINUTES

Meeting No. 17 - Second Board

Meeting: Friday, December 5th, 1969

Place: Personnel Board Office

Time: 10:30 A.M.

Absent: F. Byrne, R. Vanecko.

1. Minutes of Meeting No. 16, approved without any corrections.

2. Reports:

Meeting with the Cardinal:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

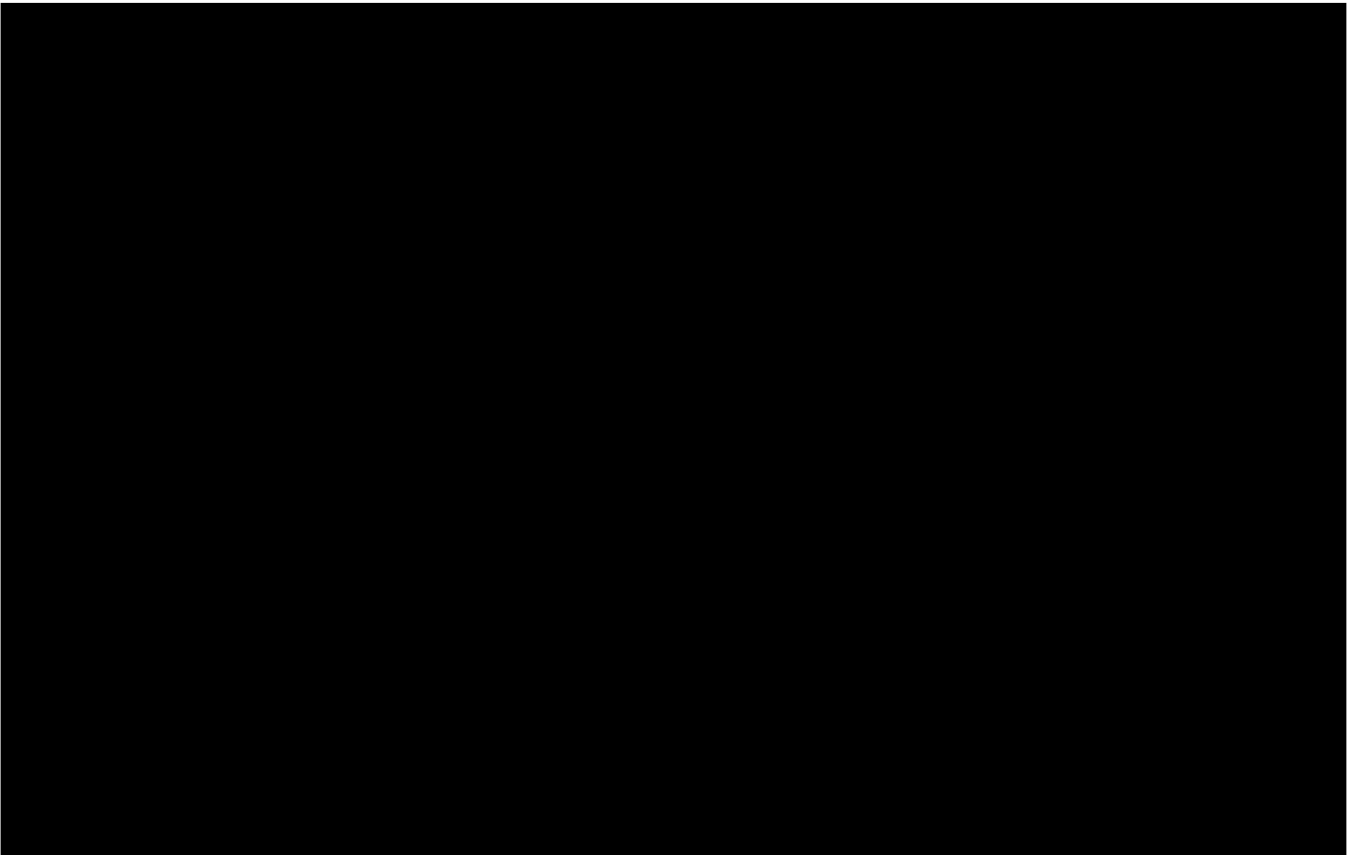
The Cardinal made the following observations:

[REDACTED] - H. Swider has a  
one month leave of absence -

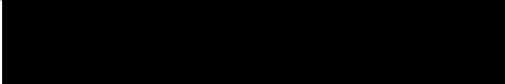
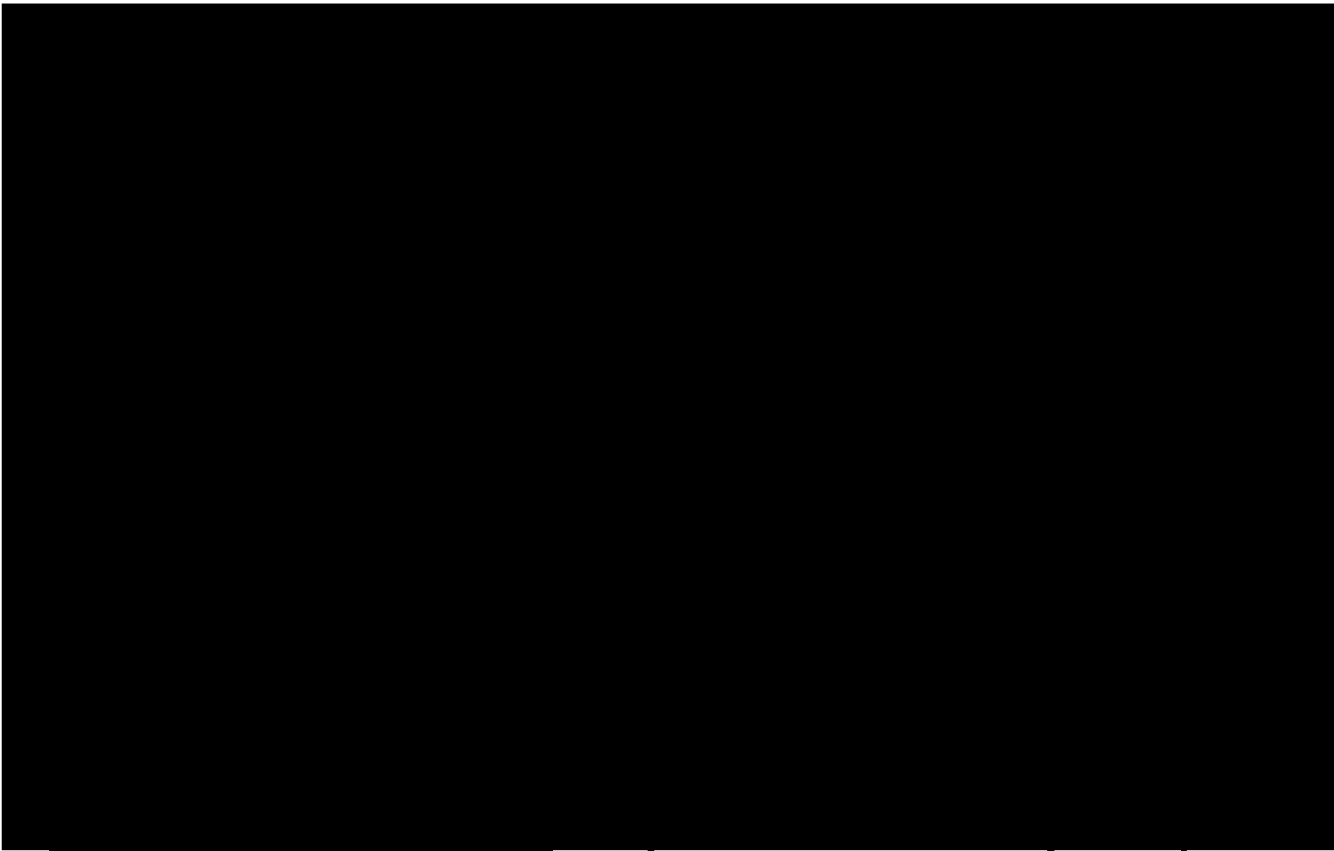
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

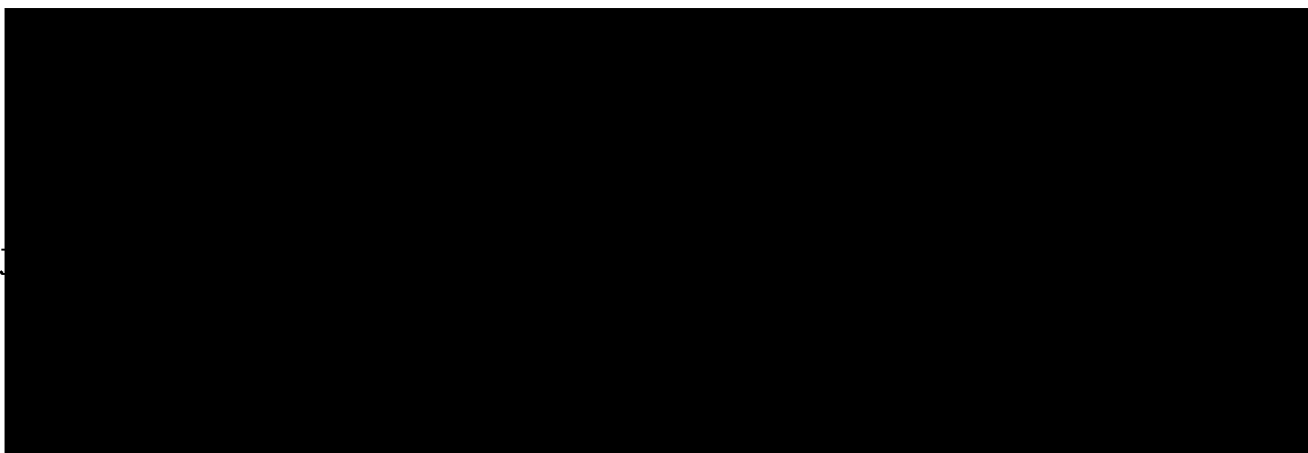
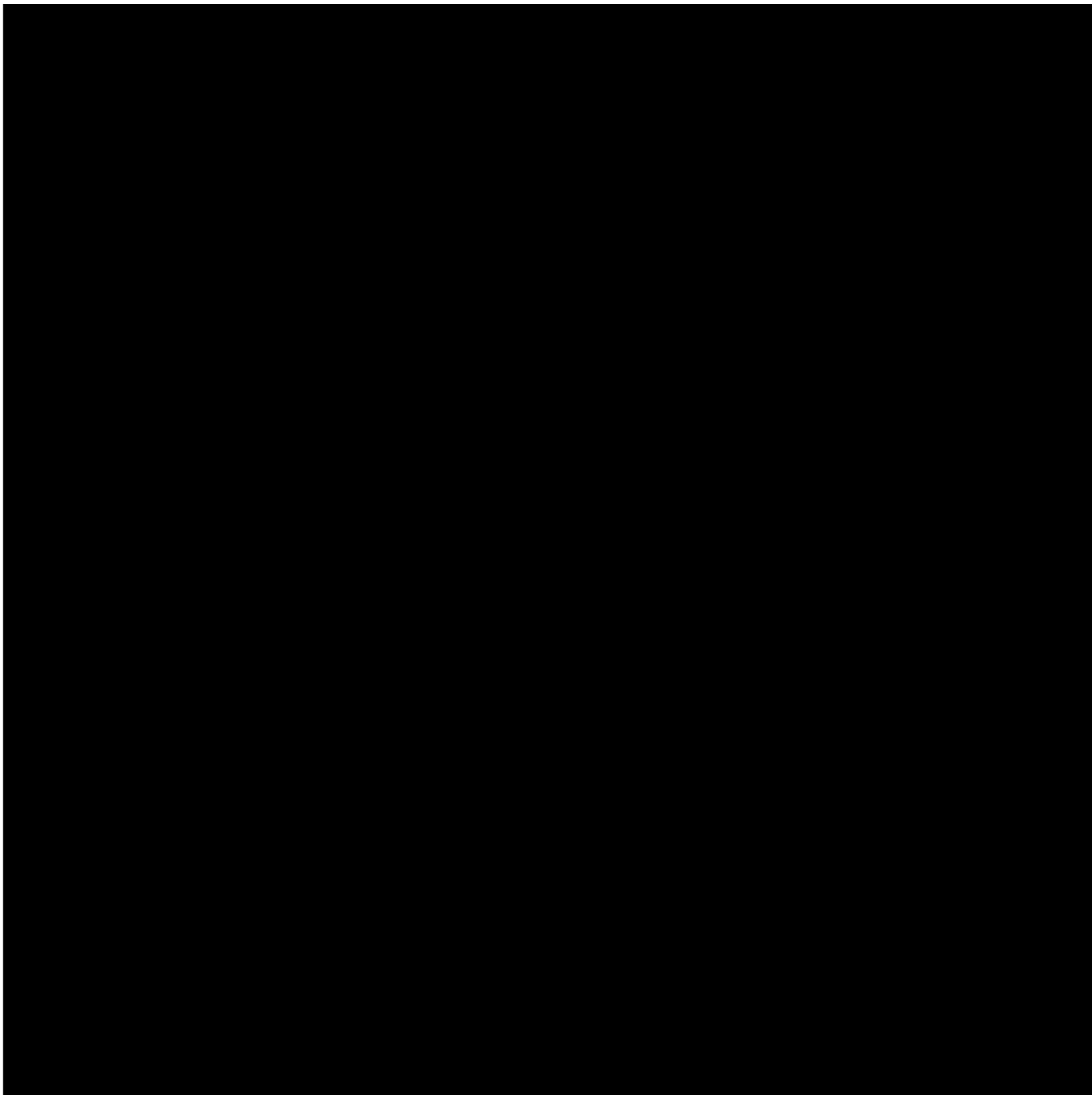
*II-32*



Other Reports:



II-53



II-54

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

3. Agenda, approved with the following additions:

[Redacted]



7. Meeting adjourned at 3:20 P.M.

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*II-56*

*file*

ARCHDIOCESAN PERSONNEL BOARD

MINUTES

Meeting No. 16 - Second Board

Meeting: Friday, November 28, 1969

Place: Personnel Board Office

Time: 10:30 A.M.

Absent: F. Byrne, T. Ventura, R. Vanecko.

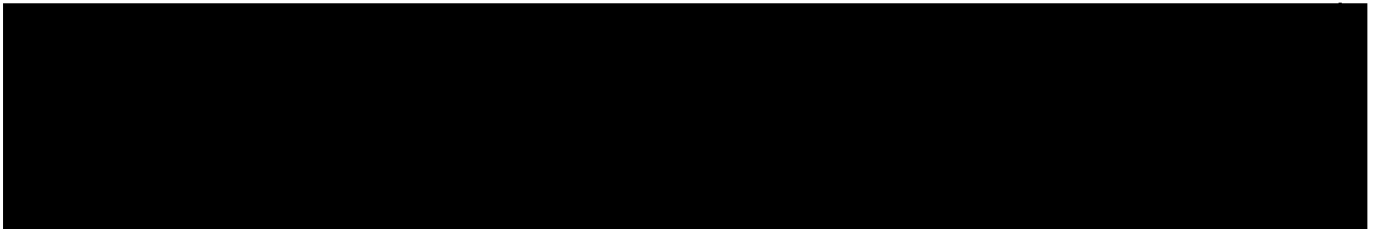
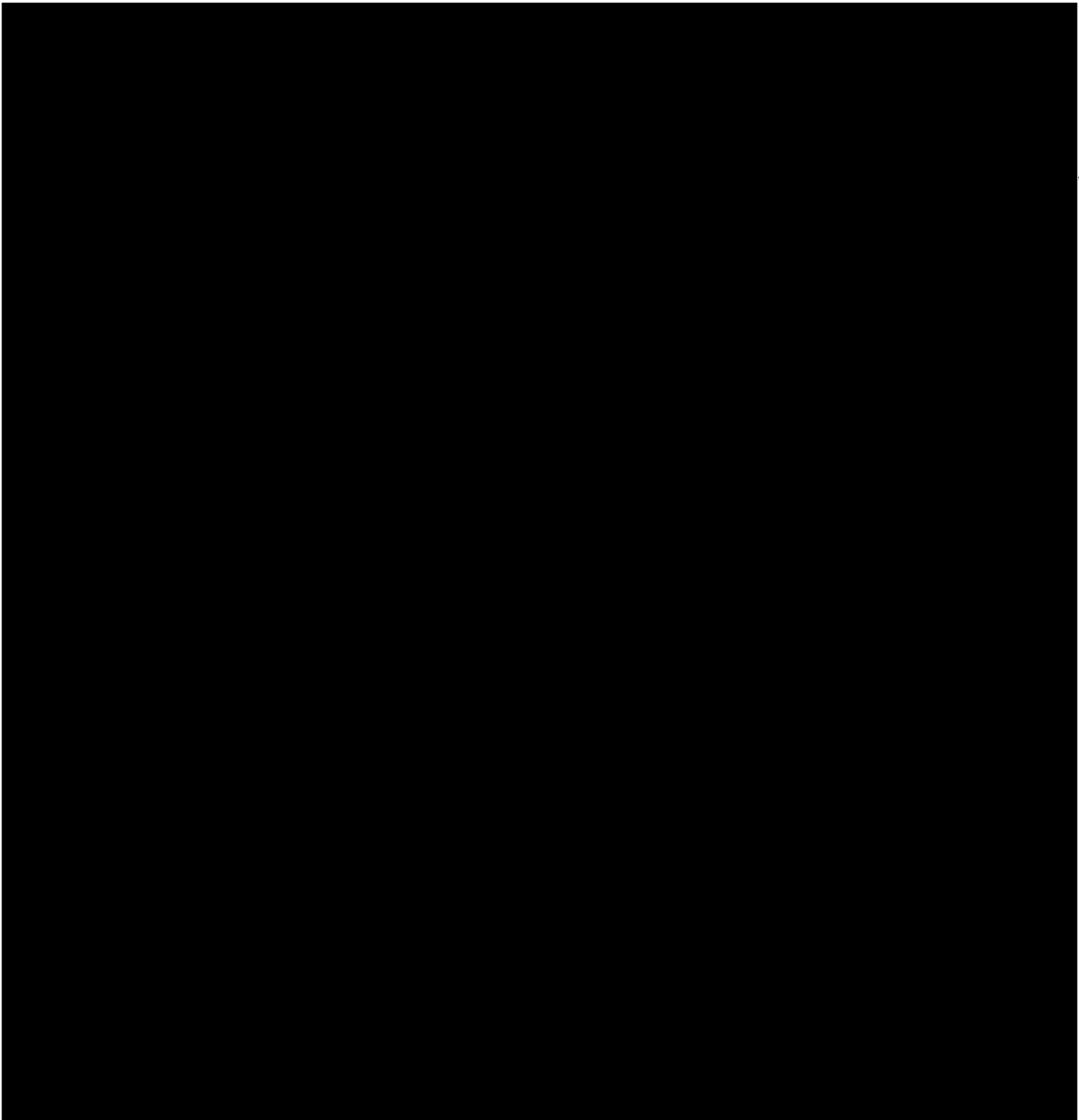
1. Minutes of Meeting No. 15, approved with following correction:

[REDACTED]

2.

[REDACTED]

*II-48*



(2)

II-49



3.



3a.

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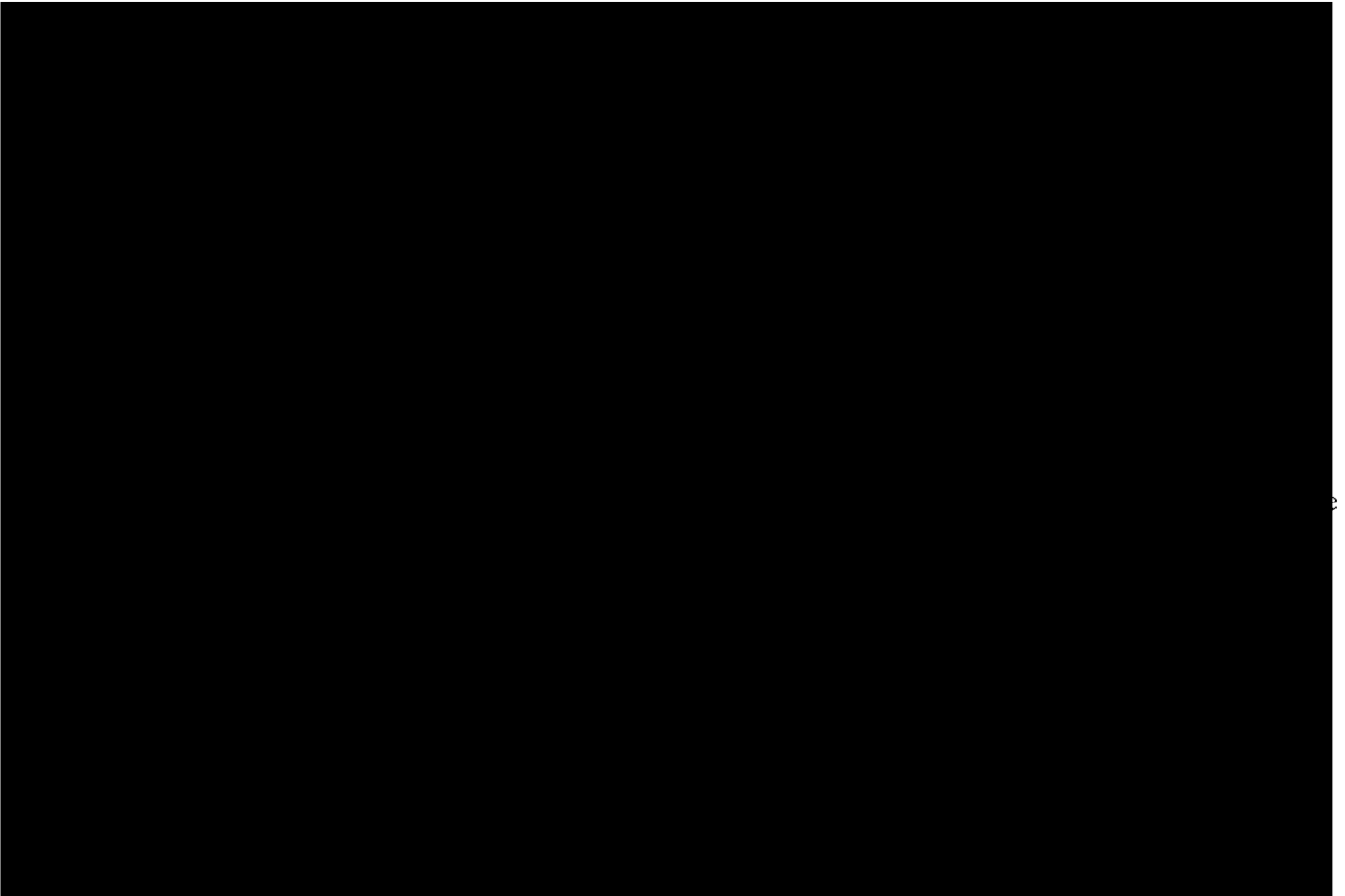
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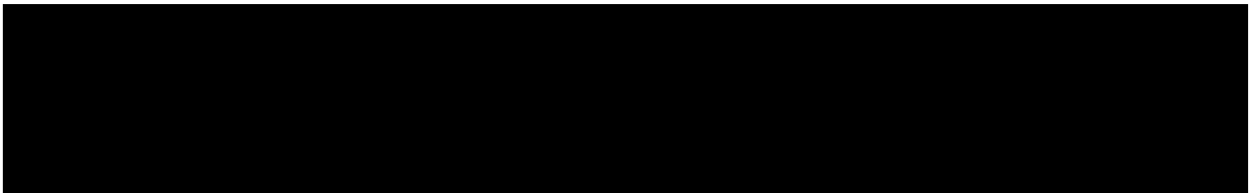
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7. Re: Chelminski and Swider confrontation - ROCHE reports that Henry has sent his letter to the Cardinal, asking for an appointment not later than December 1st.

7a.



(3)

*II-50*

7b.

[REDACTED]

Regular meeting adjourned at 3:00 P.M.

[REDACTED]

Final Adjournment, 4:05 P.M.

[REDACTED]

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THE DIOCESAN CLERGY PERSONNEL BOARD  
OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

M I N U T E S  
Meeting No. 75 - The Eighth Board

Date: Friday, July 8, 1983

Present: Reverends: Vincent F. Costello, John J. Grace, William B. Gubbins,  
Thaddeus J. Makuch, Kenneth J. Velo, Michael J. Nallen,  
Richard F. Schroeder, Robert J. Heidenreich

Place: Clergy Personnel Board Office

1. Opening Prayer: Reverend Richard F. Schroeder

2. Acceptance of Minutes: 7-0

[REDACTED]

3. Reports:

- [REDACTED]

- Henry Swider, '50, wrote to Cardinal Bernardin about returning to the Archdiocese.

4. Acceptance of Agenda: 8-0

[REDACTED]

Minutes, Meeting No. 75, The Eighth Board, Friday, July 8, 1983, CPB Office

5. Business:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Minutes, Meeting No. 75, The Eighth Board, Friday, July 8, 1983, CPB Office

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Minutes, Meeting No. 75, The Eighth Board, Friday, July 8, 1983, CPB Office

6. 

7. Old Business:

8. New Business:

9. Previews:

10. Adjournment: 2:30 p.m.