

MEMORANDUM

11405

TO: Diocese File
FROM: N. William Delker *NWD*
DATE: November 18, 2002
RE: FATHER JAMES HALLER

On today's date at approximately 12:45 p.m, I received a telephone call from Gordon McDonald, attorney for the Diocese, and Peter Hutchins, plaintiff's lawyer in the Diocese civil litigation. Peter Hutchins informed me that he represents a client who was a victim of sexual abuse by a priest named Father James Haller. His client is a female who was a parishioner in a catholic church in [REDACTED]. She came to know Father Haller in the course of her attending church. Peter Hutchins' client alleges that she was sexually assaulted by Father Haller numerous times between approximately 1976 and 1979. The victim's date of birth is [REDACTED]. Among other allegations, the victim alleges that she performed oral sex on Haller between 15 and 20 times and engaged in one incident of intercourse with him. Peter Hutchins informed me that his client does not want to contact law enforcement, that she

{Confidentiality need is described.}

McDonald informed me that Father Haller is an active priest in [REDACTED]. Peter Hutchins also informed me that based on his research, Father Haller has continuously been a priest with the Diocese of Manchester since the abuse occurred and that he has not spent any extended period of time residing out of state. Based on the victim's date of birth, the dates on when the conduct occurred and the fact that Father Haller has not been continuously absent from the State for any significant period of time, I informed Peter Hutchins and Gordon McDonald that it was my view that this conduct was outside the statute of limitations. I am unaware of any other allegations against Father Haller and have no evidence that these allegations were reported to the Diocese before the victim came forward to Peter Hutchins recently. Accordingly, I do not believe that it is appropriate to subpoena the records from the Diocese with respect to this matter. Gordon McDonald informed me that the Diocese would meet with the victim and conduct a follow-up investigation and that the Diocese would keep me apprised of what action it took with respect to Father Haller.

NWD/mmp
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