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1 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON
 2 FOR THE COUNTY OF MULTNOMAH
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 7 Plaintiffs,
 8 v. No. 0409-09700
 9 THOMAS B. LAUGHLIN,
 10 Defendant.
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 17 VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION OF THOMAS LAUGHLIN
 18 Taken on behalf of the Plaintiffs
 19 March 8, 2005
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 4 * * *
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 8 Tax Return for 2000 for Thomas
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 18 INSTRUCTION BY COUNSEL
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1 BE IT REMEMBERED THAT, pursuant to the
 2 Oregon Rules of Civil Procedure, the deposition of
 3 THOMAS LAUGHLIN was taken by Aaron M. Thomas,
 4 Certified Shorthand Reporter and Registered
 5 Professional Reporter for Oregon, on March 8, 2005,
 6 commencing at the hour of 9:44 a.m., in the
 7 conference room of the law offices of Hoffman Hart &
 8 Wagner, in the City of Portland, County of
 9 Multnomah, State of Oregon.
 10
 11 APPEARANCES:
 12 Mr. Michael S. Morey
 13 Attorney at Law
 14 Counsel for Plaintiffs
 15 HOFFMAN HART & WAGNER
 16 Attorneys at Law
 17 By Ms. Karen O'Kasey
 18 Counsel for Defendant
 19 ALSO PRESENT:
 20 Videographer Jason Quigley
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1 THOMAS LAUGHLIN,
 2 having first been sworn by the Certified Shorthand Reporter,
 3 testified under oath as follows:
 4
 5 EXAMINATION BY MR. MOREY:
 08:55:01 6 Q Mr. Laughlin, my name is Michael Morey.
 09:44:42 7 You understand that I'm the attorney who
 09:44:45 8 is representing ten men who have filed a lawsuit
 09:44:48 9 against you here in Multnomah County, Oregon?
 09:44:50 10 A Yes.
 09:44:51 11 Q Okay. Have you had an opportunity to talk
 09:44:53 12 with your lawyer, Ms. O'Kasey, to prepare for this
 09:44:57 13 deposition?
 09:45:00 14 A Some.
 09:45:00 15 Q Okay. Have you had adequate time to
 09:45:04 16 prepare, as far as you are concerned?
 09:45:06 17 A I think so.
 09:45:08 18 Q Okay. Are you under the care of a doctor
 09:45:10 19 and are you -- or are you taking any medications at
 09:45:13 20 this point in time?
 09:45:14 21 A I am taking no medications, but I have
 09:45:18 22 been diagnosed with a tumor that is noncancerous.
 09:45:22 23 Q Okay. And where is that tumor?
 09:45:25 24 A Up here somewhere. It's of the -- the
 09:45:34 25 organ that --

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10:04:19 1 your admission?
 10:04:25 2 A I don't know exactly.
 10:04:28 3 Q What action did Father Neville take as a
 10:04:31 4 result of you admitting you had been sexually
 10:04:34 5 abusing a boy at Central Catholic?
 10:04:38 6 A I don't know.
 10:04:39 7 Q Were you forced to resign?
 10:04:43 8 A Not forced to, but I did resign and I was
 10:04:46 9 named the pastor of St. Frederick's in St. Helens.
 10:04:52 10 Q Were you asked to resign by Father
 10:05:00 11 Neville as a result of him learning that you had
 10:05:00 12 been sexually abusing a boy at Central Catholic?
 10:05:00 13 A I received another appointment, which was
 10:05:03 14 the equivalent of that.
 10:05:05 15 Q Okay. Did Father Neville tell you that
 10:05:08 16 he was going to transfer you or request that you be
 10:05:11 17 transferred because you had been sexually abusing a
 10:05:14 18 boy at Central Catholic?
 10:05:18 19 A I don't think he had that power.
 10:05:19 20 Q Okay. To your understanding, was the
 10:05:22 21 reason you were transferred from Central Catholic
 10:05:26 22 because you had been caught sexually abusing a boy?
 10:05:29 23 A Yes.
 10:05:29 24 Q Okay. Was that conveyed to you -- or
 10:05:33 25 strike that.

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10:05:34 1 Did you have any discussions with
 10:05:37 2 Archbishop Howard at that time over your abuse of
 10:05:40 3 the boy at Central Catholic?
 10:05:43 4 A I don't think so.
 10:05:45 5 Q How did you learn that you were being
 10:05:47 6 transferred from Central Catholic?
 10:05:51 7 A I got a letter.
 10:05:53 8 Q And the letter came from whom?
 10:05:56 9 A From headquarters. The Archbishop signed
 10:06:03 10 it.
 10:06:04 11 Q So you received a letter from Archbishop
 10:06:07 12 Howard --
 10:06:08 13 A Yes.
 10:06:08 14 Q -- saying that you were being transferred
 10:06:10 15 from Central Catholic?
 10:06:12 16 A To the pastor of St. Frederick's.
 10:06:14 17 Q At St. Frederick's in St. Helens?
 10:06:17 18 A Yes.
 10:06:18 19 Q Okay. Did the letter, to your
 10:06:21 20 recollection, say why you were being transferred?
 10:06:23 21 A I don't remember.
 10:06:25 22 Q After Father Neville had confronted you
 10:06:31 23 or discussed with you the fact that you had been
 10:06:33 24 sexually -- you had been reported sexually abusing a
 10:06:37 25 boy at Central Catholic, did he tell you that he was

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10:06:40 1 going to go to the Archbishop?
 10:06:43 2 A I don't remember. I think so.
 10:06:47 3 Q Was it your understanding from your
 10:06:49 4 discussion with Father Neville that he, in fact,
 10:06:53 5 did go to the Archbishop with that information?
 10:06:56 6 A Yes.
 10:06:58 7 Q And it was your understanding that the
 10:07:01 8 reason you were transferred from St. Helens was
 10:07:04 9 because the Archbishop moved you because you had
 10:07:07 10 sexually abused a boy at Central Catholic?
 10:07:10 11 A The reason I went to St. Frederick's in
 10:07:13 12 St. Helens, I think -- I understood that, yes.
 10:07:17 13 Q You understood it was because you had
 10:07:19 14 sexually abused a boy at --
 10:07:22 15 A Yeah.
 10:07:22 16 Q -- Central Catholic?
 10:07:25 17 And it was your understanding that
 10:07:26 18 Archbishop Howard knew about that and that was the
 10:07:28 19 reason you were transferred?
 10:07:30 20 MS. O'KASEY: I'm going to object to the
 10:07:31 21 form of the question to the extent it calls for
 10:07:34 22 speculation to what the Archbishop knew or didn't
 10:07:39 23 know.
 10:07:39 24 MR. MOREY: That's fine.
 10:07:40 25 MS. O'KASEY: You can answer the question.

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10:07:42 1 A What was the question?
 10:07:43 2 Q Did you understand from a conversation
 10:07:44 3 either with Father Neville or with Archbishop
 10:07:47 4 Howard directly that the reason you were being
 10:07:50 5 transferred to St. Helens was because you had
 10:07:52 6 sexually abused the boy at Central Catholic?
 10:07:56 7 MS. O'KASEY: Same objection.
 10:07:57 8 You can answer.
 10:07:58 9 A I knew -- I knew it, but not from their
 10:08:00 10 conversation.
 10:08:00 11 Q Okay. How did you know it?
 10:08:01 12 A Just that's the way things work.
 10:08:10 13 Q How long did you remain at St. Helens?
 10:08:13 14 A One year.
 10:08:14 15 Q And while you were at St. Helens, did you
 10:08:17 16 sexually abuse any boys?
 10:08:20 17 A Not that I know of.
 10:08:21 18 Q And when you say not that you know of, not
 10:08:24 19 that you can recall at this point in time?
 10:08:27 20 A The answer is no.
 10:08:30 21 Q I'm not sure I understand your answer.
 10:08:33 22 A The answer is no, I did not during that
 10:08:38 23 year have any sexual contact with any young man.
 10:08:42 24 Q All right. And you're certain of that?
 10:08:43 25 A Yes.

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14:30:58 1 continue to wear the collar of a priest?
 14:31:01 2 A Yes, I did.
 14:31:02 3 Q And how often would you do that?
 14:31:10 4 A Maybe once or twice a year.
 14:31:12 5 Q And was that for special occasions or was
 14:31:15 6 it --
 14:31:15 7 A Special occasions.
 14:31:16 8 Q Okay. And after you were laicized in
 14:31:19 9 1988, did you ever again serve mass?
 14:31:24 10 A Not in a parish church.
 14:31:26 11 Q Where did you? That answer implies you
 14:31:32 12 did someplace other than a parish church.
 14:31:35 13 A After when?
 14:31:36 14 Q After 1988 when you were laicized?
 14:31:39 15 A I don't remember.
 14:31:56 16 Q After you were arrested and convicted, did
 14:31:59 17 you continue to have contact with any of the boys
 14:32:05 18 you had molested except
 14:32:12 19 A Possibly.
 14:32:15 20 Q Do you know how many boys you continued to
 14:32:17 21 have contact -- and let me clarify that.
 14:32:21 22 After you were convicted, did you continue
 14:32:23 23 to have sexual contact with any boys other than
 14:32:27 24
 14:32:31 25 A Well, not that I remember.

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14:34:05 1 the same thing, at this point in time, I will
 14:34:07 2 postpone completion of this deposition.
 14:34:10 3 MS. O'KASEY: Okay.
 14:34:11 4 THE WITNESS: Thank you.
 14:34:12 5 (Deposition adjourned at 2:34 p.m.)
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14:32:36 1 Q Do you remember having nonsexual contact,
 14:32:39 2 either in person meetings, telephone calls, with any
 14:32:45 3 of the victims --
 14:32:46 4 A No.
 14:32:46 5 Q -- any of the boys that you had sexually
 14:32:49 6 molested?
 14:32:49 7 A No.
 14:32:53 8 Q Have you through the years retained any
 14:32:58 9 contact with any of the boys that you molested?
 14:33:01 10 A None.
 14:33:03 11 Q Have you on your own kept track in any way
 14:33:07 12 with respect to their lives?
 14:33:10 13 A None.
 14:33:13 14 Q Are you aware that any of the boys that
 14:33:20 15 you molested subsequently committed suicide?
 14:33:23 16 A No.
 14:33:28 17 Q Did you molest
 14:33:33 18 A I don't -- I don't recognize the name at
 14:33:36 19 all.
 14:33:49 20 MR. MOREY: Okay. Subject to follow-up
 14:33:50 21 questions with respect to Judge --
 14:33:55 22 MS. O'KASEY: Wittmayer's.
 14:33:56 23 MR. MOREY: -- Wittmayer's ruling,
 14:33:58 24 follow-up questions to your producing additional
 14:34:02 25 financial documents, which is all part and parcel,

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14:34:12 1 STATE OF OREGON)
 14:34:12 2 County of Multnomah)
 14:34:12 3
 14:34:12 4 I, Aaron M. Thomas, Certified Shorthand
 14:34:12 5 Reporter, Registered Professional Reporter, and
 14:34:12 6 Notary Public for the State of Oregon, do hereby
 14:34:12 7 certify that THOMAS LAUGHLIN personally appeared
 14:34:12 8 before me at the time and place mentioned in the
 14:34:12 9 caption herein; that the witness was by me first
 14:34:12 10 duly sworn on oath and examined upon oral
 14:34:12 11 interrogatories propounded by counsel; that said
 14:34:12 12 examination, together with the testimony of said
 14:34:12 13 witness, was taken down by me in stenotype and
 14:34:12 14 transcribed through computer-aided transcription;
 14:34:12 15 and that the foregoing transcript constitutes a
 14:34:12 16 full, true and accurate record of said examination
 14:34:12 17 of and testimony given by said witness, and of all
 14:34:12 18 other oral proceedings had during the taking of said
 14:34:12 19 deposition, and of the whole thereof.
 14:34:12 20 Witness my hand and Notarial Seal at
 14:34:12 21 Portland, Oregon, this 21st day of March, 2005.
 14:34:12 22
 14:34:12 23
 14:34:12 24
 14:34:12 25

PD 0151

Aaron M. Thomas
Oregon CSR 04-0388