

MEMORANDUM OF INTERVIEW

PERSON INTERVIEWED: PAUL L. AUBE

PLACE OF INTERVIEW: Office of the Attorney General
33 Capitol Street
Concord, NH

DATE OF INTERVIEW: Tuesday, August 27, 2002

INTERVIEWERS: Detective Kathleen M. Kimball, NH State Police *AKM*
Investigator Anthony Fowler, AGO

On the above date, at approximately 1315 hours, **Paul L. AUBE** responded to the Attorney General's Office accompanied by his attorney, Robert McDANIEL and legal case manager, Laurie WOODAMAN in order to complete an interview that had begun on Wednesday, August 14, 2002. Also present during this interview was Assistant Attorney General James ROSENBERG.

The entire interview was audio recorded with the permission of all parties. Recording ceased at approximately 1645 hours.

See attached transcript and Possessed Property Report.

End of report.

PAUL AUBE INTERVIEW

8/27/02

AF: Okay, it's August 27, 2002. This is Investigator Anthony Fowler of the New Hampshire Attorney General's Office. This is a continuation of an interview with Father Paul Aube. Ah, the time is 1:11 p.m. by my watch. We are in an interview room at the New Hampshire Attorney General's Office, room 355. Um, I'm going to go around and ask everybody to introduce themselves, uh who is present for the interview..

KK: Detective Kathleen M. Kimball of the New Hampshire State Police.

LW: Laurie Woodaman, Legal Case Manager for the law office of Robert McDaniel.

PA: Paul L. Aube, Priest of the Diocese of Manchester.

RD: Robert E. McDaniel, counsel to Mr. Aube.

JR: James Rosenberg, Assistant Attorney General.

AF: Okay. Father I had asked you before I turned the tape on, but I want to ask you again, do you have any problem with this interview being audio taped?

PA: No, I do not.

AF: Okay. As long as we're all set. Okay.

RM: Same rules as before.

AF: Great. Okay. Father, we had left off talking about your assignment in Nashua when we ended talking about assignments solely the last time we had spoken. I'd like to back up a little bit and just talk a little more about a few issues with the Nashua

PA: Incident.

AF: Assignment. And the incident, correct. Um, the night that this occurred, Father,

PA: Yes.

AF: Do you remember what type of car you were in?

PA: I was a Saab.

AF: It was a Saab.

PA: That's correct.

AF: Do you remember what color by any chance?

PA: No. I do not.

AF: Okay. And I know we had covered this before, but I just want to clarify it. What was the name that you recall of the boy that you were with that night?

PA: [REDACTED]

AF: Could you spell the last name for me.

PA: I believe it is [REDACTED]

AF: Okay. And that

JR: [REDACTED] The last name.

PA: I'm sorry.

JR: [REDACTED]

PA: [REDACTED]

JR: Okay.

PA: That's correct.

JR: All right.

AF: Okay. And the age of the boy?

PA: I believe he was either 17, 18.

AF: Okay. Can you tell me why you think that, Father?

PA: Because he was in the youth group and those were the, from all the kids that I had personal interaction with were the older kids in the youth group and ah they I think he was a senior in high school.

AF: Okay. Did you keep in contact with ah, [REDACTED] after?

PA: No. I did not.

AF: You did not.

PA: I was, I kept in contact with him while I was still at the parish, but not after I left the parish, no.

AF: Did you ever talk to [REDACTED] about what occurred that night with the police?

PA: No, I did, not except for that night, no.

AF: No.

PA: I don't believe so. I don't, I don't have a recollection of it no.

AF: Do you remember any conversation during or after with, with [REDACTED] about what was going on?

PA: I do not remember that, no.

AF: Okay. Um, you had indicated that two plain clothes officers were the officers who came up on you and [REDACTED] Is that correct?

PA: That's correct.

AF: At any time during that, that incident did any other officers arrive

PA: No.

AF: At the scene? Was there any other officers at all?

PA: No.

AF: Okay. No uniforms?

PA: No.

AF: No other, no other cars?

PA: No.

AF: Okay. Once the officers, well lets go to the end of the incident. What happened to [REDACTED] did he leave with you or did the police take him home?

PA: To the best of my recollection, he left with me.

AF: He left with you?

PA: To the best of my recollection.

AF: Okay. Were you asked by either one of the officers to go or respond to the station that night?

PA: No. I was not.

AF: Did you ever go to the Nashua PD that night?

PA: No. I did not.

AF: You did not, okay. Where did you go after, Father? After the police let you go?

PA: My, the best of my recollection, I drove [REDACTED] home and then I went to the rectory.

AF: Okay.

PA: On [REDACTED].

AF: Okay. When you met with the Bishop,

PA: The following Monday. Correct

AF: Correct. At what meeting would the Bishop, were you told by Bishop Gendron that he had made a call to the PD?

PA: That was the second meeting.

AF: Second meeting. And how long after the incident did that second meeting occurred?

PA: That was after I had visited with Dr. Connors for several times and he apparently had received a, a report from him. I never saw the report, but he had, I shouldn't say report, he told me he had been in communication with Dr. Connors.

AF: Okay.

PA: And that was several weeks after that.

AF: Who did Bishop Gendron tell you that he spoke to at the Nashua PD?

PA: The ah, Police Chief himself.

AF: Do you remember the Chief's name, sir?

PA: It was a French name. Ah, I think it was, I'm not sure. Maybe, maybe it was King. I'm not sure. That doesn't sound French I know but ah, it was ah, Bishop Gendron use to be ah had been a priest at that parish and ah,

AF: Of what parish, sir?

PA: The parish where I was assigned at the time.

AF: Okay.

PA: And the friendship went back to that. From what I gathered this was a friend of his from way back. He was a police Chief of Nashua at that time.

AF: Police Chief of Nashua at that time?

PA: That's correct.

AF: And that's Bishop Gendron told you that he had called the Chief?

PA: Himself.

AF: Okay.

PA: Correct.

AF: All right.

RM: Would you know the name if you heard it?

PA: I think, I think I would recognize it, yes.

JR: List

AF: I do too

JR: Yeah.

AF: I think we should.

JR: Okay.

AF: Okay. I want to go down through some names.

PA: Please.

AF: Craig Sandler?

PA: That doesn't ring a bell.

AF: Belanger?

PA: Doesn't ring a bell.

AF: Um, Bob Barry?

PA: Bob Barry. Nope.

AF: Nope. Um, Jim Slattery?

PA: No.

AF: Ron Dowling?

PA: No.

AF: Um, Armand Reauseault? Reauseault?

PA: No.

AF: Boudreau?

PA: No.

AF: Um, Don Boyer?

PA: No.

AF: Um, Bill Burns?

PA: No.

AF: Um,

JR: Was there another name that you learned yesterday or today.

AF: That's, I've already been over that one.

JR: So, um, when, when and sorry to break in, but when you said you weren't certain if any of those names rang a bell, is it possible it could have been one of those people, but you can't remember as you sit here today?

PA: I presume it could, yes.

JR: So you're not certain that it wasn't one of those?

PA: Oh, yeah.

JR: That Tony

PA: That's correct. That's correct.

JR: Okay.

AF: You just don't recognize the name?

PA: I don't – names don't ring a bell.

AF: Okay. Um, Father, a couple of other questions on that and then we'll move on. Um, Father Ham, George Ham?

PA: Yes.

AF: He, he had um, had sent you a letter after this, this Nashua incident um, about setting up for you to go back and see um, Connors? Okay. Do you remember that?

PA: I'm the one that requested to see Connors.

AF: Right.

RM: The question was do you remember the letter?

AF: Do you remember the letter from Father Ham?

PA: I do not.

AF: What I'll try and ask you is, Father Ham eludes to, in the letter, a particular policy, although he doesn't describe it in the letter. A particular policy on how priests are suppose to go about to get psychological testing. Maybe perhaps if we could get the letter.

KK: I'm looking for it now.

AF: What I want to know is um, does that information elude to you trying to go out on your own to get some help and he might be scolding you a little bit? Or does it elude or is he just refreshing your memory on that he's suppose to do it and no one else, I guess.

RM: Tony, if the letter is here and available, could I have him take a look at it? Cause frankly, we've never seen such a letter. So you're referring to the sentence that says I mentioned your call to the Bishop and he agreed with what I told you about the policy of the person involved making his own appointment with the psychologist.

AF: Correct.

RM: inaudible

AF: Correct. Do you know what he's talking about there, Father?

PA: This brings back to my memory. I thought it was ah, Frank Christian that had given me the information. But this indicates that it was George Ham that had given me the information about Dr. Connors. Ah, this over here, this policy of the person involved making his own appointment with a psychologist, I don't know of any policy I was advised of and most probably I wouldn't have paid much attention to it at that point.

AF: You don't know what he's talking about?

PA: No.

AF: Or why that would be in that letter?

PA: No. I do not.

RM: Are you going to get your knuckles rapped here a little bit for making your own appointment?

PA: No. I think that that's I, I think the thing I had asked Bishop Gendron was ah, to set up an appointment for me, for me to meet with Dr. Connors.

AF: Yes.

PA: But I didn't know who he was. To the doctor who had given my, my pre-ordination eval. And I think here he was responding to my question to ah, Bishop Gendron no we're not going to make the appointment, you make the appointment.

AF: I see.

PA: I think that could be what he is referring to.

AF: Okay.

PA: Because therapeutically that's the way it should work.

AF: Okay.

PA: You know, I, I should be making the initiative.

KK: Okay.

PA: Can I finish the last paragraph? There was no, no phone number provided in here at all. So I would have had to dig for that number myself for which somewhat surprised, but I do not remember that.

AF: Yeah, we were just, I was trying to figure out what he was talking about in that particular part of the letter.

PA: That's the only thing that would make sense to me although they did, they always thought me to be um, a little independent so.

AF: Okay.

RM: So it could be that you're getting your knuckles rapped?

PA: Could be, but I always look at the positive side of things.

AF: Cause that's how it sounds to some people.

PA: Yes, yes.

KK: Umm, umm.

AF: Okay. Ah, just one other question and then we're going to move on here.

KK: inaudible

AF: Father ____ on this issue or yeah, go ahead.

KK: The incident with the Nashua Police occurred on a Saturday night?

PA: I believe so, yes.

KK: And we already went through how you contacted the officer, one of the officers that stopped you the next morning.

PA: That's correct.

KK: And then you had said that you approached your own pastor.

PA: That's correct.

KK: Um, Ray

PA: Father Ray Desjardin.

KK: Ray Desjardin.

PA: Right.

KK: In that, and that sometime that Sunday.

PA: That Sunday morning.

KK: Oh, Sunday morning.

PA: That's correct. In between the masses.

KK: Okay. When you had that conversation with um, Reverend Desjardin.

PA: Huh, huh.

KK: Can you tell me an idea, a gist of what you told him? How specific were you about what had occurred the night before?

PA: I told him exactly what had happened.

KK: And what would you have told him?

PA: I would have told him that I had been out with [REDACTED]

KK: Huh, huh.

PA: That ah, we had been riding around and at one point where I had stopped on the side of the road.

KK: Huh, huh.

PA: And ah, there was some touching that went on. There was no de-dressing, but there was touching that went on and that while that took place there was ah, a car that came behind us and the blue lights went on and then two plain clothes ah, officers came had taken [REDACTED] out of the car. Asked [REDACTED] to leave, come out of the car. They'd gone to the back. Had left me in the car. I talked with him at length and then asked me if there was any weapons in the ah,

KK: Huh, huh.

PA: Ah, I said there was no weapons. They, I said if they wanted to search the car they could. They asked me to come out of the car. Ah, told me they were very surprised that a priest would engage into such a thing. Um, and said they would have to think about how they would handle this and if they wanted to pursue it they would contact me. They asked me where I lived and all that.

KK: Huh, huh.

PA: I, I gave them that information. They asked me for my license and [REDACTED] was driving the Saab. He's the one that was driving the Saab, not myself.

KK: Okay. So then um

PA: And I told that, I told that to Father Desjardin, yes.

KK: And you named [REDACTED] specifically?

PA: Yes. I did.

KK: So that he had an idea of what

PA: Oh, yes.

KK: What family would be involved.

PA: Oh, yes.

KK: Um, did he indicate to you what he was going to do with this information?

PA: No. I told him the reason I was sharing it with him was because I really wanted, I felt that I should see the Bishop and ah, you know, I just thought he should be aware of it.

KK: Okay. And did he offer any guidance to you?

PA: No, he told me, he encouraged me to contact the Chancery the first thing the next morning.

KK: All right.

PA: Which I did.

KK: All right. So he left that up to you?

PA: That's correct.

KK: He wasn't going to take that step?

PA: That's correct.

KK: Did he follow-up with you in any way after your meeting

PA: No. He did not.

KK: with the Bishop?

PA: No. He did not.

KK: All right.

PA: Not with me directly, no.

KK: Okay, indirectly how would he have followed up?

PA: I, I had rumors that he had mentioned the incident to other priests.

KK: Colleagues of yours, I would assume?

PA: Colleagues. But those were just rumors.

KK: And do you know in what context he would share that information?

PA: No, I do not.

KK: All right. Um, when you then talked with the Bishop Monday morning.

PA: Yes.

KK: Where you

PA: It was Monday sometime.

KK: Okay. Where you that specific again with the Bishop?

PA: Yes, I believe so.

KK: Providing the name

PA: Yes.

KK: of the boy and

PA: I don't know if the name of the boy came about, but I, I would suspect that it might have because the Bishop had a special interest in that parish because of many ties there.

KK: All right.

PA: And I would presume that he would have asked the name of the family because he knew so many of them.

KK: Okay. And were you specific enough with the Bishop that he knew that this incident involved sexual contact with this boy?

PA: The thing that he knew was what happened that there was some touching.

KK: Okay.

PA: Yes.

KK: All right.

AF: Want to show him that note from Desjardin, Father Desjardin.

JR: Before you start I have some questions about Nashua too. So Kathy if you want to finish up.

KK: The only other thing that I would ask is um, did you confide in anyone else other than-

PA: Yes.

KK: Okay. Why don't you

PA: I, I think I had shared that with you. I had shared what had happened, I believe I did. Now you've got me doubting. Ah, I believe I had shared that with [REDACTED]

KK: All right, no you didn't.

PA: I thought I had mentioned that.

KK: No.

PA: That I had mentioned that to [REDACTED].

KK: No, you did tell us that you shared it with [REDACTED]

PA: Yes. I did.

KK: All right. But

PA: But I'm not sure about [REDACTED]. I know that I shared with [REDACTED] [REDACTED] know that.

KK: Who, who is [REDACTED]?

PA: I had mentioned that [REDACTED] was one I had had sexual contact with ah, in Nashua.

KK: Oh, okay. All right. Ah, did you mention it to any of your colleagues, your peers?

PA: No.

KK: All right. Okay.

AF: Can I ask one question?

JR: Sure.

AF: Father, you said the touching occurred that night with [REDACTED]

JR: That's correct.

AF: Did, did any form of oral sex occur?

PA: Oh, no.

AF: That night. Any penetration at all?

PA: Oh, no, no, no, no.

AF: No.

PA: No, no we were clothed.

AF: What's that sir?

PA: We were still clothed.

JR: Ah, I also have some follow up questions and I apologize for repeating things that we discussed last time so work in an effort to be as thorough as possible. We've tried to go through um all that we've talked about with you before and lift from it. Um, I think we just want to clarify that

PA: That's fine.

JR: So, so it could be ah, repeat a lot of what you've already told us and a lot of questions we've already asked, but I ask you to bear with us a bit. Um, how did you I know that Robert was a parishioner um, in Nashua. How'd you meet him?

PA: He was in the youth group.

JR: He was in the youth group and did you supervise that group?

PA: That's correct.

JR: Um, and was there anything about your interactions with him through youth group or through other ways as a priest that um, allowed you to learn something about his background. I mean how did, how did a sexual relationship come about with [REDACTED] um, having met him in your youth group?

PA: He had shared with me his ah, preoccupation about sexual identity.

JR: And how, in what context did he share with you that preoccupation?

PA: In, in sharing with him.

JR: Okay.

PA: In sharing together in confidential conversations.

JR: Okay. I understand. So was that

PA: The only reason I bring it up, because it was in a confidential

JR: Sure.

PA: atmosphere, the only reason I bring it up is that I did ask [REDACTED] at night

JR: Huh, huh.

PA: in front of a policeman permission to share with them what he had shared with me.

JR: Okay. And did he grant you that permission?

PA: Yes. He did.

JR: Um, and were they communications that occurred in a confessional or in the context of the youth group?

PA: I don't know if it was confessional. I considered it confidential.

JR: Sure.

PA: I, I considered confidential. I don't think it was within the, the strict, I don't think it was within the strict context of a confession, a sacramental confession. No. I don't believe that, no.

JR: Okay. So you said before that these discussions you learned that he um, was preoccupied with

PA: Sexual identity.

JR: Sexual identity.

PA: Correct.

JR: And um, how did it move from discussions about his preoccupation to physical encounters with you?

PA: I think, I don't know exactly how it lead to that other than um, at that time I would not

RM: Do you want to talk to me privately?

PA: Well, I don't know how to express it. I don't know maybe we should confer about it.

AF: Father, can I ask you one question and maybe this will move it along. How many times prior to that night had you had contact with [REDACTED]

PA: On a one to one basis?

AF: As in the touching.

PA: Oh, never, never.

AF: That was the first?

PA: That was the first and only time.

AF: Okay.

JR: I am still curious about how it would have progressed from those types of discussions to a physical encounter. Um, but feel free to I mean if you want us to step out.

RM: I mean we'll both step outside. Do you want to step outside and talk or?

PA: Well

RM: Is it a matter of phraseology?

PA: It's a phraseology situation.

RM: Okay.

PA: Do you want me to pass it by you or what?

RM: Um, no if your comfortable just phrase it the best way you know how.

PA: I can only put into the context of that time.

JR: Understood.

PA: Okay.

JR: Yes.

PA: In the context of that time.

RM: Okay, I know what you're saying Paul. Just go right ahead with it.

PA: Okay. In the context of that time, I was still very, very upset with anything, anyone homosexual, okay? I wanted to eradicate that from the face of the earth.

RM: Okay.

PA: In my deprived way or depraved way of looking at it at that time, I certainly don't share those feelings or opinions now, and I see where it was wrong and why and what lead me to that at that time. It was a way of trying to convince him that he was not. And I see how wrong that was. But I also see why I fell into that rut. I understand that, many years later. I did not see it that way then.

RM: Okay.

JR: Okay. So it was your physical encounter with [REDACTED] was it a specific reaction to what he told you? I mean was it that you were trying to assist him?

PA: Yes.

JR: Okay.

RM: It's a fairly, Paul and I spent a lot of time talking about this issue.

JR: Huh, huh.

RM: And maybe I can help

JR: Please.

RM: Him articulate it a little bit. Um, at in those years, this is more than a quarter of a century ago and following and he we're here after Paul working more than two decades with ah you know his own mental health professionally. Um, I

think he harbored ah, very powerful anti-homosexual feelings. Even though, from time to time, he may have been involved in activities which could be described as homosexual himself. And confronted with people, from time to time, who question their own sexual identity and by a very complex psychological process, would use the homosexual encounter and provide the internal excuse or the internal explanation there was an effort to help somebody identify their own sexual proclivities. It's not the way Paul thinks today. It's not the way that he's thought for many, many, many years, but in his place at that time 25 years ago I think that's a fair way to describe it, wouldn't you say that that's right, Paul?

PA: I would say that is correct. In, in a sick way because I hadn't [REDACTED] [REDACTED] it, it was in front of me, but I had never confronted it nor had I ever sort help for it nor had I ever dealt with it.

RM: I think there is one other thing Paul, that I want to add here just for everybody's benefit. And that is ah, one of the reasons why, why we advised Paul to come in and chat with everybody in this room, is we were very comfortable with his history over the past 20 to 25 years and what he had managed to achieve through a lot of self-discipline and a lot of hard work and I would very much want to preserve that for his future and his retirement and, and would like to not have these sessions um, weaken the strength and resolve that he's managed to create over those period of time.

PA: That won't happen.

JR: Understood and I um, apologize if I took a step in

RM: No. That's

JR: That direction, but I also just wanted to understand how

PA: No, no, no. I'm glad you did.

JR: You cultivated with

PA: Ah, ah, I'm glad you did, sir because I wanted I let me show you something. I know you told me don't volunteer anything. But I'm going to volunteer something anyhow.

RM: Clients, you've got to love them you know?

PA: Said answer the questions they ask.

JR: It's okay.

RM: Go ahead Paul.

PA: Ah, now the reason I ask, the reason I said I'm glad you asked that is because it's a situation, it's a thought process that I thought was important for you to know of and that I've had tremendous discussion with him about.

JR: Huh, huh.

PA: That I really, I personally I wanted you to know about that thought process at the time and I hope that you understand it was at that time.

JR: I do. And I appreciate you sharing that thought process with us. Um, this more specifically on the evening that this incident occurred, how did you first meet up with [REDACTED]

PA: At some, at some gathering of some sort. He use to hang around the church a lot.

JR: Huh, huh.

PA: He use to help out with different things and ah, he had shared that his mom was on his back for getting a haircut or something like that and he was suppose to get a haircut that day and he hadn't. And I said, well, I'll give you a haircut. And I had gone to his house. I didn't know if his parents were going to be there or not, but I offered to give him a haircut. I did go to his parents house and found out his parents were not there. I proceeded to give him the haircut and then we started talking during the haircut and then we just went out to ride around and that's how it came about.

JR: Okay. Um, when you first met him, you said it was at a gathering of some sort. Was it a church related function?

PA: Oh, yes, yes, yes, yes.

JR: So at the gathering would that have been at the church?

PA: Oh, yes.

JR: Um, and it was at that gathering. Was it a specifically a youth gathering?

PA: That I don't remember.

JR: Okay.

PA: Um, because [REDACTED] and a few other kids use to help a lot around the parish and ah, hang around the church and so I'm, I'm not I'm definitely not clear as to whether it was an organized event or whether they just happened to be there.

JR: Okay. And did the topic of the haircut come up at that gathering at the church?

PA: That's correct.

JR: Okay. Um, was it unusual for you to be giving haircuts?

PA: Yes, very much so.

JR: Okay. Um, but did you offer to give the haircut?

PA: I did.

JR: And did he agree?

PA: Yes. He did.

JR: And so you said the haircut occurred at his home?

PA: That's correct.

JR: Do you remember where his home was located?

PA: No. I do not.

JR: Um, was it in Nashua?

PA: Oh yes, yes, yes. Was within the compounds of the parish. It was within the boundaries of the parish.

JR: Okay, but you don't remember specifically?

PA: No, I don't remember the street address, no.

JR: Um, and during the haircut, it sounds like you must have started to talk a little bit.

PA: We start to talk about all kinds of general things.

JR: Okay.

PA: Yeah.

JR: And before you got back in the car did I mean did you get in the car with [REDACTED] with both of you ah, under the impression that you were taking a ride?

PA: Yes.

JR: To have a sexual encounter?

PA: Oh, no, no, no. No, no, no, no, no.

JR: Okay. So, so did the conversation during the haircut um,

PA: Oh, it had nothing to do with sex.

JR: Okay.

PA: That I recall anyhow.

JR: So when you got in the car and you said [REDACTED] was driving. What was the purpose of getting back in the car?

PA: What was the purpose to go in the car to start with?

JR: Yeah, yeah.

PA: Just to ride around to continue our conversation.

JR: Okay.

PA: Yeah. Because we, I don't recall what we were talking about.

JR: Huh, huh.

PA: But I know that whatever we were talking about, we you know at least I felt we should continue the conversation. And he felt we should continue the conversation. And he was not sure when his parents would arrive and we didn't want to interrupt the conversation we were having and so we had gone to continue.

RM: Um, how long did you know [REDACTED] before this particular evening?

PA: I wasn't in that parish very long at all. Ah, and I got to know him because he was one of the, one of the young people that hang, hung around the church

doing, cutting grass, helping around, cleaning here, cleaning there. He was one of the kids that hang around the church.

RM: Do you remember when he got his driver's license?

PA: Oh, that was at least a year or two before that.

KK: Did he have it when you met him, when you first went to the church?

PA: I believe so yes. Yes. I believe all the kids that were hanging around with had their license, yes.

AF: Father did you get caught more than once by the Nashua PD with a kid?

PA: No.

AF: It was just one time?

PA: That's correct.

AF: Okay. Do you remember [REDACTED] parents names?

PA: No. I do not.

AF: Did you ever talk to them, to the parents of what had happened?

PA: No. I didn't. I did not.

AF: Did they ever ask you or confront you about this?

PA: No. They did not.

KK: Do you know if they went to anyone in the Diocese about it?

PA: I have no, no, no notion of that at all.

JR: Um, and you describe to us before the three meetings that you had with Bishop Gendron all in this instance. Um, when did you decide to go talk, what was your expectation of what would happen when you decided to go talk to the Bishop?

PA: I was hoping that, you know, he would back me up and getting some and agreeing for me to see a doctor and evaluate what was going on, get the help I needed if I needed it, yes. That was my purpose.

- JR: Was there any policy in place that that you knew of that you knew would allow you to go to the Bishop to discuss a issue of sexual misconduct?
- PA: That's a long standing thing. The Bishop is, the Bishop is our, our pastor, okay. The Bishop is our Father and the Bishop's first and fore most responsibility is his priests. Okay, this Bishop we have now, has put that to somebody else, but his, his responsibility is his priests and the ultimate pastoral figure in my mind was the Bishop. There was no one else I, I would share this with other than my Bishop and my pastor because my pastor was my immediate superior and that was the chain of command. My immediate superior was my pastor and then after that was the Bishop.
- JR: Okay. So was there a standing understanding if you will that you could approach the Bishop um, on absolute any problem
- PA: That's correct.
- JR: That you're having in your life or in your ministry.
- PA: That's correct.
- JR: Um, was there ever specifically stated by officials of the Diocese or by Bishop Gendron that issues of sexual misconduct should be brought to his attention?
- PA: No, I don't recall ever any discussion of anything sexual.
- JR: Huh, huh.
- PA: In those days.
- JR: And I think we talked about this at our last meeting, but, were you aware of any other priests um, in parish work who um, were involved in similar?
- PA: No, not at that time. No. I didn't at that time. Ah, as a matter of fact I, I was left to feel as if I was the odd ball here.
- AF: Do you know of anybody, any other priests, ah, Father who knew about the problems you were having or complaints that might have been made against you?
- PA: No.
- AF: No one else knew? You never confided in anyone else?

- PA: The only, the only other thing was when I was in Claremont and I had gone to see the pastor, Father Lamontange and I had told him about that person's ah with [REDACTED] when he was 18 years of age and ah I didn't know how to handle it and he had told me to pray and ah, that we all had failings and to pray and the Lord would help me and strengthen me. Which, I believe in that principle, but I also believe you need counseling.
- KK: Did you ever, where you ever aware of um, like ah, some kind of process that if a pastor received that kind of information
- PA: Yes.
- KK: on one of their priests, was there something that they were supposed to do with that information beyond you?
- PA: See I wasn't, I wasn't aware of that. Those are things they um, give you seminar about when you're named a pastor. You know, these are your responsibilities as pastor. Ah, when I went through Seminary, it was in the nebulous days. Right after Vatican II Counsel where everything was floating up in the air, the cannon laws were floating up in the air and ah there was no sense of direction really and especially ah, after Bishop Gendron took over. There was real flux in this Diocese cause the Diocese had been almost two years without a Bishop. And everything had gone hay wire at that point and ah, he was really confronted with many big problems.
- KK: When you went to Father Lamontange in Claremont,
- PA: That's correct.
- KK: did you expect that he would take that information a little bit higher to get you the help that you were asking for?
- PA: I didn't know what he was going to do. I didn't know what to expect.
- KK: Huh, huh.
- PA: I honestly did not know what to expect.
- KK: I guess then, would you
- PA: I hesitated to go see him.
- KK: Because of?
- PA: Because I didn't really respect his own moral life.

RM: You've got to finish that thought.

KK: Yeah. And we're not here to cast stones on him, but I'd like to hear.

PA: He was a womanizer.

KK: Okay. Um, but I guess my basic question still comes back to, did you expect some assistance from that conversation that you had?

PA: Yes. I expected some, some help of some sort and the help that I got is pray. And that wasn't satisfactory to me, but I did not have the maturity. I did not have the humility. I did not have, I had too much pride to go any further with it or to share it with anybody else.

KK: All right. Now I'd like to kind of get onto another thing here if it's okay with you?

JR: I have a couple more Nashua questions.

KK: Well mine is sort of at the tail end of it, but I'd like to kind of move on for a moment.

PA: Please.

KK: When you got in contact with Dr. Connors eventually,

PA: Yes.

KK: after seeing the Bishop.

PA: Yes. And apparently receiving a letter from him.

KK: Where were you physically? Were you still stationed

PA: I was still always still there, yes.

KK: St. Aloysius.

PA: St. Aloysius, yes.

KK: Okay.

PA: St. Louis, St. Aloysius, whatever you want.

KK: All right. And were you performing any of your priestly duties?

PA: Oh, yes, yes, yes that didn't stop at all.

KK: All right. Did you continue to have any sexual contact with anyone else other than [REDACTED] during that period of time?

PA: Yes. I, I believe, I believe at that time it was [REDACTED]

KK: All right.

PA: Yes.

KK: And um, I would ask you the same

PA: That was the fondling situation.

KK: Right. You had said that before.

PA: At that time. At that time, yes.

KK: Did it escalate beyond?

PA: It escalated to ah, ah, with [REDACTED] it escalated to mutual masturbation and ah, once I think to what Mr. McDaniel refers to as oral sex.

KK: Okay. And we already established what that involved.

PA: In this particular context what that means.

KK: Yes.

PA: Yes.

KK: Um, and how much, what's the time frame of that escalation?

PA: With, with [REDACTED]

KK: Yes.

PA: Maybe a course of three years.

KK: Beyond that time when you met with the Bishop?

PA: From that time, from that time to the time where it stopped.

KK: So you were actively involved in counseling with Dr. Connors and you were contact with [REDACTED]

PA: I'm not sure that happened before or after [REDACTED], I think it was before [REDACTED]

KK: All right.

PA: But I don't know if now that you bring this up in chronological order, I really don't remember if I had talked to Dr. Connors about [REDACTED]

KK: Okay. When you met

PA: I presumed I did.

KK: Well, we'll go with your best memory. When you were dealing with Dr. Connors,

PA: Yes.

KK: how specific were you with him as far as what was bringing you there to see him?

PA: I believe I was very open with him.

KK: That you were having sexual contact with

PA: With

KK: um, with young men, boys?

PA: Yes, that I had had, I had had sexual contact with some young men, yes.

KK: Okay.

PA: Of 18 or

KK: Younger.

PA: Or younger, but no younger than 17 I don't think.

KK: Okay.

PA: At the time.

KK: So you were, you were candid with him?

PA: Oh I believe so yes.

KK: Okay. All right. We'll move on.

AF: I want to just, I'm not clear on one thing. How soon, how soon after this Nashua incident Father, did you get transferred to Rochester? In your

PA: It was shortly after that that the church burned down. And I was asked to clean up the inside of that church or with the kids.

AF: Yeah.

PA: And that lasted all summer.

AF: Okay.

PA: Um, so I would say 4 to 5 months.

AF: Okay.

JR: Um, did the church burn down after this incident came to light with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

PA: I don't remember to be honest with you.

JR: Okay. Um, but when the church burned down you said you, you were asked to clean up with the kids?

PA: That's right.

JR: What youth group kids or?

PA: Yeah, youth group kids, yes, yes, yes.

JR: Okay. So were you specifically instructed that clean up effort should be done working hand in hand with the children?

PA: That's correct. I was to try to organize the kids to come and clean up.

JR: Who gave you those orders?

PA: Ah, that was the pastor, Father Desjardin.

JR: Father Desjardin?

PA: Yes.

JR: Any idea whether or not the Bishop or anyone from Diocese had knowledge that you were asked to help clean up with the kids?

PA: I have no idea.

JR: Okay.

RM: Would it have been normal for under these circumstances since you've been in contact with the Bishop, for Desjardin to discuss his ah, proposed assignment with the Bishop?

PA: I have no idea.

JR: Um, when you were, it sounds like you had ah, you described to us before several meeting you had with the Bishop after the Nashua incident and then the final one was a meeting about your reassignment.

PA: That's correct.

JR: Um, in any of those meetings, did you discuss with him, did you request um, and we might have discussed this before, um, that you didn't want to go to parish work because of youth ministry because you didn't want to be in youth ministry?

PA: Under the circumstances is the words I believe I used with him, under the present circumstances I would prefer not to, to ah, do anymore youth work.

JR: And when you

PA: Or parish work. I wanted to go back to studies.

JR: And when you used the phrase with him under the present circumstances, what were you referring to?

PA: We were referring to the incidents in Nashua, yes.

JR: And how did the Bishop respond when you referred to those incidents and you requested not to be in youth ministry in the future?

- PA: I think it was at our third meeting that he said you know um, we need your talents and your expertise. We need your talents and expertise.
- RM: Therefore?
- PA: That's why I'm asking you to go to Rochester to be organizing CCD program, which is a religious ed program from K to adult. A religious ed program and to organize a, a youth program.
- JR: So did he specifically request that when you went to Rochester you would be
- PA: That's correct.
- JR: involved in the organization of all of these youth programs?
- PA: That's correct.
- JR: And you said that they dealt with K to 12 that's kids of all ages?
- PA: K, K through including adults.
- JR: Okay. Um, when you were requested by the Bishop to return to parish ministry,
- PA: Yes.
- JR: more specifically youth ministry,
- PA: Huh, huh.
- JR: did you protest that decision at all?
- PA: Yes. I said I would prefer to go back to studies under the circumstances and I didn't think it was good for me to go back to parish work.
- JR: Um, so, so did you specifically tell the Bishop that you did not want to go to parish work in youth ministry?
- PA: Yes.
- JR: And how did he respond um, to that protest?
- PA: It was Paul, we need your, we need your talents.
- RM: What was the name of this Bishop?

PA: That was Bishop Odore Gendron.

AF: I have one follow-up question of that. In any way Father, did Bishop Gendron restrict your contact or youth ministries in any way shape or form after he became aware of the incident in Nashua?

PA: Nope.

KK: Do you know whether he had any conversation with the pastor of the parish in Rochester that you were being assigned to about what had already

PA: I had no knowledge that he did or not.

RM: Is there any doubt in your mind that he knew about the encounter in Nashua with the young man?

PA: Who?

KK: The next parish. Oh.

RM: Gendron

PA: Of course he knew. I went to see him for specifically that reason.

RM: Okay. And when you said to him under the circumstances, is there any doubt in your mind that he understood that to mean the circumstances where you had

PA: Oh, there's no doubt in my mind that that was clear, that we were referring to that.

RM: You were referring to

PA: To the incident in Nashua.

JR: Um, and you talked about in discussions with Bishop Gendron. We saw some correspondence um, from Ham. Um, did you ever talk to Father Christian about, about it? Did you have any correspondence or communication with Father Christian about the Nashua incident?

PA: No. See I last time we talked about this,

JR: Huh, huh.

PA: I thought it was Christian because Christian was the personal secretary of Gendron. But apparently Gendron referred it to Ham who was, I don't know what he was at that point.

JR: Sure. Vice Chancellor maybe?

PA: Yeah, he was Chancellor. Yeah that's right.

JR: Can you refer him to the letter we looked at before

PA: That's correct.

JR: December of '75 when he gave you contact information for Dr. Connors.

PA: That's correct.

JR: Um, okay so, so

PA: I thought it was _____

JR: Understood. Um, do you recall any specific communication with Father Christian at all about these incidents?

PA: The Nashua incident at that time I don't recall, no.

JR: Okay. And more generally.

PA: But I'm sure he would know.

JR: Okay. Um, do you recall, did you, did you talk to anybody else?

PA: No.

JR: In the church?

PA: No.

JR: Your colleagues or Diocese officials?

PA: No.

JR: About the Nashua incident?

PA: No.

AF: How would Christian know?

PA: Because he was the Bishop's personal priest secretary and as a personal secretary of the Bishop he knows everything.

AF: Okay.

PA: The Bishop shares everything with him.

AF: Great.

KK: I'd like to show you a short, short memo from Reverend Dejardins to the Bishop.

JR: For the record I think we're referring to a January 4, 1976 letter from Reverend Raymond Dejardins of St. Louis parish in Nashua to the Bishop.

RM: There's a date stamp 12 on it.

KK: Yes. Did you know anything about that communication?

RM: Did you have this long conversation with Desjardin?

PA: That morning.

RM: Which one?

PA: After the incident.

KK: Was there

AF: Go ahead, Kath, sorry.

KK: I was going to say is this long conversation referring to the conversation that you had the Sunday morning after the Nashua incident?

PA: It is not clear as to what he refers to here. Ah, he might have been referring to ah, my because he always went on vacation in, in January for a few weeks and ah, I might have shared with him that I might not be able to attend to some of the functions because of meetings with the doctor and that most probably is why he's referring to a meeting.

TAPE ONE, SIDE B

AF: Okay, we're back on tape. Ah, we'll continue. We had to switch the tape over to Side B. Ah this is Investigator Anthony Fowler, New Hampshire Attorney General's Office in an interview with Father Paul Aube, A-U-B-E. We're continuing the interview. It is 1:58 p.m. um, by my watch. Same people are present.

KK: We were discussing this short letter, communication, from Reverend Desjardin to the Bishop.

PA: I have never been aware of that. .

KK: All right. So you're not exactly sure which long conversation that he is referring to?

PA: That's correct.

KK: All right. Would you have had more than one long conversation about the incident?

PA: No. To, to my recollection, I had one long conversation with him the day after and then I did keep him abreast of the meetings that I had because it would effect my work.

KK: Sure.

PA: In the church. I would have to be absent.

KK: Okay.

RM: Paul, this letter says I had a long conversation with Paul. I was firm, but tried to show compassion. Do you have any idea? Do you remember him being firm or trying to show compassion or does any of this make sense to you?

PA: The only thing that I could recall of his being firm was you better make damn sure this doesn't happen again.

AF: Did he say that to you, Paul?

PA: I believe he did.

AF: Concerning the?

PA: The incident.

AF: The Nashua incident.

PA: That's correct.

RM: Did it appear to you that he was there at the request of the Bishop to have this long, firm,

PA: No.

RM: But compassion?

PA: No.

RM: Did he tell you he was going to report back to the Bishop in that conversation?

PA: No.

KK: Did the Bishop know about the incident?

PA: Oh yes.

KK: When you had this conversation with Reverend Desjardin?

PA: I don't know.

KK: Ummm.

PA: I don't know what long conversation he's referring to.

KK: Okay.

PA: I just can tell you that the long conversation I had with him was that next morning in between the masses because I really wanted, I was antsy. I wanted him to know about it.

KK: Okay.

PA: As soon as possible and while one of the other priests was saying mass, Father Ray was in his ah, study office reading the newspaper and I interrupted him.

KK: Huh, huh.

PA: To say I need to talk to you.

KK: Okay.

PA: And I shared it with him at that time and I told him I would like to go and see the Bishop about it and he encouraged me to do that.

KK: Huh, huh.

PA: And that's the only long conversation about the subject that I remember.

KK: Okay.

PA: I remember telling him about the appointments that I had because he ah, it would effect, it would effect you know my availability.

KK: Right.

LW: About how long was the conversation?

PA: That is a relative term, isn't it? Ah, I would say maybe 15, 20 minutes.

JR: And did you, it sounds like you did have maybe not long conversations, but did you have other conversations with Father Desjardin during the time that you were going to see Dr. Connors?

PA: Only, only before he left for vacation to tell him that meetings had been set and that ah, I would be seeing the doctor more than once and ah, there was a meeting coming up on a certain date.

JR: And did you tell him that the, the you know the process of your healing or counseling was underway?

PA: No, no.

KK: Okay. I'd like to move on now to Clare, ah, to Rochester.

PA: Yes.

KK: Which was your next assignment.

PA: That's correct.

KK: And ah do you recall about when that occurred? When you actually were transferred?

PA: I think it was the early fall of '75 or '76. I don't remember that.

KK: Okay.

PA: Whenever this was ah, had to be '76.

KK: Okay. And ah, what other priests were there in Rochester?

PA: At the time?

KK: Yes.

PA: There was the pastor, Monsignor Gil Simard.

KK: Okay.

PA: And Father Roland Blais. B-L-A-I-S. He is retired and ah, the last I knew he was living in the Manchester area, at St. George Rectory, but I don't know if that Rectory is still functioning at the moment or not.

KK: Okay and just for the record, was there more than one parish in Rochester at the time?

PA: Oh, yes. There were two parishes in Rochester. There were three.

KK: And which one did you go to?

PA: I went to ah, Holy Rosary.

KK: Okay. And what were your duties there at Holy Rosary?

PA: My duty was to organize the CCD, the education program.

KK: Right.

PA: And the youth program.

KK: Okay. And we've already talked about.

PA: And to say masses and you know visit hospitals, visit the sick. I had my own communion list.

KK: Huh, huh.

PA: Of ah, I don't know a couple of dozen of people, shut ins that I was to give communion to or visit on a regular basis.

KK: All right. And did you have any involvement through the local district court at that time?

PA: Oh, yes, I did.

KK: And can you describe for us what that involvement was?

PA: There was a law office adjacent to the Rectory. Um, Mr. Cooper was the lawyer, but he was also a juvenile judge and um, ah, he I, I became quite known in town for my work with youth and my success in working with youth. And he had approached to the best of my recollection approached Monsignor Simard to ah have me become what he referred to. I don't know if that's a proper term or not, but he what he told me a friend of the court where I would sit at the bench with him during juvenile hearings and then ah I would, he would consult with me as to ah, how to handle the situation or what to recommend to do, what to be done to the juvenile.

KK: And how long did you um,

PA: That I'd go in?

KK: become involved in this activity?

PA: I think it started a couple years after I was there and I think it lasted until I left.

KK: All right. So um,

PA: When I left in 1981.

KK: All right.

PA: So a couple of years I would think.

KK: So in your making recommendations to the court,

PA: Yes.

KK: did that involved um counseling on your part on any of these kids?

PA: Oh no. Oh no, no, no.

KK: All right.

PA: No, not it would be recommending them to go to counseling, to be referred to Social Services. Ah, there was only one incident where the judge um, gave custody of two or three kids or put two or three kids in my custody.

KK: And do you know who those kids were?

PA: Oh, no. I don't remember who they were.

KK: How long were they in your custody?

PA: Not very long.

KK: Like hours, days?

PA: Oh, no maybe a few weeks. And ah, I never really met with them to be honest with you. And at one point I was called in by the judge and saying I had been a delinquent parent because I hadn't been watching the kids too well.

KK: If they were in your custody where did they physically reside?

PA: Not with me, for sure. Ah, I don't remember where they reside.

RM: By in custody, do you mean you were their physical care giver, custodian or do you mean that the judge put you in charge of their case?

AF: Guardian sir, would that be?

PA: Maybe

AF: Appropriate?

PA: Maybe, maybe guardian maybe. Ah, I guess they had to report to me like more a

KK: Like a probation officer?

PA: A probation officer or something to make sure they didn't get in trouble, but I didn't you know I never had any long standing with them.

AF: Would the other, I want to ask this before I forget it. Were the other pastors at the church aware of your problem in Nashua, at that time?

PA: Ah, not to my knowledge.

AF: Did you ever discuss that with them?

PA: No.

AF: You didn't. Did you ever get kids referred to you or sent over to you by the say the Rochester Police? A kid that might have been getting in a couple of scrapes?

PA: There might have been. There might have been, yes.

AF: They send them over to you.

PA: There might have been. Yeah.

AF: Okay.

KK: Was the Diocese aware of your involvement with the courts?

PA: Oh yeah.

KK: And they were.

PA: Well I don't know if they were as far as the court is concerned. I know they were very much as far as the youth were concerned. As far as the court, I don't know. I just know that [REDACTED] had discussed it with Monsignor Simard and I, I accepted the, the, the offer of, of [REDACTED] and with the blessing of Monsignor Simard.

KK: All right. Do you know if anyone else in the Diocese knew of your involvement with the kids to that extent?

PA: I don't know.

KK: Meaning the Bishop or anyone else under him?

PA: I have no idea.

KK: Okay. Ah, did you have any sexual contact with minors while you were in that parish?

PA: Yes. I did.

KK: And who were they?

PA: They um, going back many years. Ah, there was a [REDACTED]

KK: Okay.

PA: Who had been referred to me by the kids of the youth group. They were very concerned about him and this kid in youth group, I forget his first name, I think the last name was [REDACTED] who had physically brought [REDACTED] to the Rectory. They were classmates of his and they were very concerned because of, that he would do himself harm or that he was very depressed or whatever it was and that he needed help and they brought him over to see if I could give him help or if I could help him out. Um, I spoke with him a few times and I believe I had recommended to him and his mother that they should either seek a counselor, a regular counselor from Catholic Charities or go see a psychologist because the problems he had were I didn't think, you know I had the time to give him nor was I qualified to give. [REDACTED] in the process ah, [REDACTED] shared that he had homosexual experiences. Ah, that he couldn't share that with anybody because he was afraid to be rejected even more than he thought he was and ah, again my sick mind took over. I was going to get him over that problem.

AF: How old was [REDACTED] the time, sir?

PA: I think he was 17.

RM: What was the nature of the contact with [REDACTED] Paul?

PA: The nature of the contact was you know touching, was fondling. Ah, we were in the nude a couple of times, but in the meantime feel [REDACTED] fell in love with me. He wanted me to be his lover and I said no, I was not going to do that. He wanted to have ah, penetration. I said I was not going to do that. He wanted to have oral sex. I said I was not going to do that and he kept insisting. I had given him my private phone number and he would call at one, two, three, four or whatever time of the night and you know he would, you know, cry his heart out and you know beg for me to meet with him. And he would just pop in at anytime in the Rectory unannounced without any ah, appointment.

KK: So what was the extent of the, of the final extent of

PA: My involvement with him?

KK: of the physical contact that you had?

PA: I believe he was embraced fully nude and ah I, I don't think it went to mutual, to, to mutual masturbation. I don't think it went to that.

KK: All right. And where did this occur exactly?

PA: That

KK: Your contact?

PA: At the height of it?

KK: No, what I'm asking is when you had physical contacts

PA: Yes.

KK: with him where were you?

PA: Well, there were two places.

KK: Okay.

PA: Okay. The fondling itself was in the car.

KK: All right.

PA: The ah, the nude embrace was at the Rectory in my room.

KK: All right. And did um, other ah, occasions to have physical contact with him or did it only occur on two occasions?

PA: Oh, no, no, no, no. It occurred more than two. Two times.

KK: All right.

PA: Oh yes.

KK: So it was always either in your car?

PA: That's correct.

KK: Or in your quarters?

PA: That's correct.

KK: All right. What kind of car were you driving at that point?

PA: A Saab.

KK: It was the same vehicle?

PA: No. I don't think it was. Ah, maybe it was, I'm not sure. Maybe it was blue now that you mention it. Trying to think what color was it. Um, it was a Saab. I always had a Saab.

KK: All right. Did anybody know about the contact that you were having with him?

PA: No, not to my knowledge, but I, I want to continue my story if I may.

KK: Huh, huh.

PA: Because I think it's an important point. When I kept refusing to, to have or to become his lover, he started to threaten me. He was seeing some psychologist at the time. And ah, he started to threaten me that if I did not then he would tell his psychologist that I had raped him. And I says you can do whatever you need to do, but I'm not going to do that. And ah, then I refused to see him altogether from that point on. And if I recall that was in January of '81. So I believe that my contact with [REDACTED] must have been in '79 and '80. The last part of '79 and '80 because he wasn't, I recall it was the being of '81 when he ah, threatened and ah, that if I didn't—I says [REDACTED] you do whatever you want. If you want to tell your psychologist that, I can't stop you from doing that.

KK: Do you know whether he did?

PA: At one point he did, yes.

KK: And then what was result of him telling his psychologist?

PA: I got a phone call from his psychologist. That was at the end of, of ah, the end of August, the beginning of September of '81 and ah, ah, the psychologist called me and wanted to set up a meeting for me to meet with him, with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] mother.

KK: Did you?

PA: I declined.

KK: All right. And do you know what happened after that? After, did they have a meeting without you?

PA: Oh, I don't know.

KK: All right.

- PA: I don't know if they did. I know that after that, that I believe was the mother contacted the Bishop's office.
- KK: Okay. And what happened upon that contact with the Bishop's office?
- PA: To the best of my recollection, and I know this only because my doctor, my psychologist had told me he had received a communicate or a telephone call from ah Father Christian telling him that he had received a phone call from [REDACTED] on. I was confronted by Father Christian after that phone call. Ah, Monsignor Simard was out that weekend and ah, Father Christian came up to replace him, to help out with the masses and after the mass ah, he said he wanted to meet with me. We met in the, in the common parlor and he told me that he had received a phone call from [REDACTED]. Was there any truth to this?
- KK: And what did you respond?
- PA: I said yes, there was.
- KK: Huh, huh. And what did he do?
- PA: And ah, he said he would have to get back in touch with her and then he contacted my doctor to tell him ah, that he had met with [REDACTED]. He would have a subsequent meeting with [REDACTED].
- RM: Your doctor named?
- PA: Dr. Ernest E. Desjardin.
- KK: So when did you stop seeing Dr. Connors and start seeing Dr. Desjardin?
- PA: Oh, I only saw Dr. Connors for several meetings back in, in '76.
- KK: Okay. How did you get connected with Dr. Desjardin then?
- PA: It was in the summer of '70, of, of '81 that I went to see my Bishop and said I need help.
- KK: You went to the Bishop again?
- PA: I went to the Bishop, Bishop Gendron again.
- KK: All right.
- PA: And I said I need help. I'm going to go and see a psychologist.

KK: Was that before [REDACTED] contacted?

PA: That's correct. That's correct.

KK: All right. Why don't you tell me a little more about that meeting. It's in the summer of '81.

PA: In the summer of '81.

KK: Can you be more specific about that?

PA: I think it was maybe July, August. Most probably August.

AF: What, what prompted you to go there?

PA: What prompted me to go there?

AF: Yeah. To see the Bishop.

PA: Oh, because I knew I had a problem that I wasn't handling anymore. It was out of control now. And you know the threats from, from [REDACTED] as really working on me and it was really affecting me.

KK: Was it the same Bishop Gendron?

PA: Yes, yes, yes, yes.

KK: And did, where did that meeting take place?

PA: In his office.

KK: And did you just show up there or did you call and

PA: No. I called and made an appointment.

KK: make an appointment? Did you give any indication about what your meeting was going to refer to?

PA: No. I did not.

KK: All right. So you show up, you have your meeting with the Bishop.

PA: That's correct.

KK: And tell me more about that meeting.

PA: I told him that you know I thought that things were out of control, that I had a problem, that I needed help with, that I wanted to see a psychologist.

KK: And how are you able to tell him that, you had a problem that you felt was out of control, did you tell him anything about

PA: I told him about

KK: additional contact with other young...

PA: Oh, yes, yes, yes, yes and I told him about the threat of [REDACTED] and my contact with [REDACTED]

KK: Okay.

PA: Oh, he knew about that, yes.

KK: All right.

PA: I mean, I told him at that time.

KK: All right.

PA: Okay.

KK: And how did he respond to you?

PA: He said well, do you have any specific doctor that you would like to see. I said there's one that seems to have had very good success with people I referred to him.

KK: Huh, huh.

PA: I says and that's doctor ah, Dr. Desjardin.

KK: Huh, huh.

PA: And he says ah, is he the one you'd like to see? I says yes. He says I know him. He says ah, I think highly of him. Ah, he says I will, I will call him up right now and he left the room where we were meeting. He went into his personal office, picked up the phone and called Dr. Desjardin and asked him if he could rearrange his schedule to meet with me ASAP and Dr. Desjardin

agreed to meet with me the next day. He rearranged his schedule to meet with me for an initial visit the next day.

KK: Okay. And did you go to that initial meeting?

PA: Oh, yes.

KK: Um, when you finished your meeting with the Bishop,

PA: Yes.

KK: was there any other plan put in place to help you?

PA: No.

KK: Was there any plan put in place to deal with the [REDACTED] family in anyway?

PA: At that point, no, because the [REDACTED] family issue had not come up yet. I just warned him that it could come up.

KK: All right. And did he offer any other advice or services

PA: No.

KK: to you at that time?

PA: No.

KK: All right. Do you know whether he contacted anyone at ah, Holy Rosary Parish?

PA: I have no idea.

KK: All right.

RM: Did you go back to work in the same duties?

PA: I went, I went back to do the same duties until such time where [REDACTED] [REDACTED] called the Bishop's office.

RM: Which was a period of how much later?

PA: A month maybe.

RM: Was [REDACTED] your first contact with um,

PA: In Rochester?

RM: In Rochester.

PA: I believe he was.

RM: Okay.

PA: Because I was still keeping in touch with [REDACTED] at the time.

RM: Okay. Now here's an important question. The [REDACTED] matter is now fully before the Bishop, okay?

PA: That's correct.

RM: You are returned to the parish in Rochester at Holy Rosary, correct?

PA: That's correct.

RM: Subsequent to that time, and while you were still at the same parish, you had sexual contact with four others, is that right? [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

PA: No, no, no, no, no, no. No, no, no, no, no, no.

RM: Okay.

PA: No, no, no, no, no, no.

RM: Tell me how I got that wrong?

PA: You've got that pretty wrong. Ha, ha, ha. [REDACTED] yes.

RM: Okay.

PA: [REDACTED] there was some fondling that went on with [REDACTED]

AF: So in the answer to Attorney McDaniel's question is that in fact yes, you had at least contact with others?

PA: Yes.

AF: With others?

PA: Yes.

AF: Why don't you tell us who?

PA: Oh yes.

RM: Who subsequent to [REDACTED] After [REDACTED] story is known to the Bishop.

PA: Oh, no, no, no, no, no. After the [REDACTED] story was known to the Bishop, then I was out of that parish. I did not stay there. After [REDACTED] called the Bishop's office, I was immediately removed at the recommendation of the lawyer I went to see.

RM: Okay.

KK: So in the, from the time you got to Holy Rosary until [REDACTED] complaint,

PA: Yes.

KK: in '81,

PA: Yes.

KK: who else besides [REDACTED] did you have sexual contact with?

PA: There was [REDACTED]

RM: Okay.

KK: All right.

PA: And once there was ah [REDACTED]

KK: Okay.

PA: And I don't think I fondled him. I think it was more ah, one evening we were coming back from Manchester and ah, ah, I don't know how the conversation went to whatever it went to and ah when we came back maybe around ten o'clock at night. Whatever it was, I invited him to my quarters and I don't know, to go back to your line of questioning, you know, what leads to the thing. I don't know how it lead to it ah but he ended up in my private quarters and for some reason or other I convinced him to masturbate in front of me. And um, ah, that was the extent of my, of my experience with [REDACTED] ah, sexually speaking is concerned. Um,

- RM: How about [REDACTED]
- PA: [REDACTED] I don't even know who he is.
- RM: Okay, you don't know who [REDACTED] is.
- PA: No, I do not.
- RM: But you do know that somebody wrote [REDACTED] check for \$25,000.00?
- PA: I just found that out a few weeks ago when you told me about it.
- RM: Okay.
- KK: Who else might you have had sexual contact with in Rochester?
- PA: In Rochester there was that ah, there was an adult that I had had ah, he was a – I'm trying to think of his name. He was in military service. He was an adult. Um,
- RM: It's okay. If it comes to you just blurt it out.
- PA: But there was no other, other adolescent, no. There was [REDACTED]. There was ah,
- RM: Listen, listen to the question.
- AF: Military service. Was the name [REDACTED] sound familiar?
- PA: No, but the name [REDACTED] does sound familiar, but I, I
- AF: Did you ever have any sexual contact with [REDACTED]
- PA: No, no.
- AF: Okay.
- PA: No. The only thing that could be interrupted as sex with anybody other than the people I've mentioned would be the fact that I use to get very affectionate embraces to all people.
- AF: Now, to make sure we understand. We're talking about sexual contact.
- PA: No.

AF: Whether it be from the level of touching.

PA: No.

AF: To, up to

PA: No.

AF: Some type of penetration.

PA: I can remember the name [REDACTED] I cannot put a face to it, but I do remember the name.

RM: So I want to get this straightened out in my own feeble mind, Paul. Um, the contacts with others in Rochester, did they occur before or after um

PA: [REDACTED]

RM: The [REDACTED] matter?

PA: That would be either prior or simultaneous to.

RM: Okay.

KK: When you went to the Bishop again in 1981,

PA: Yes.

KK: did you tell him that you were having contact with others other than [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

PA: Oh, I don't remember. I just went. My purpose to go see the Bishop was to ask for help, to ask to go see a psychologist. At that point I had become skep, you know, what's the word I want to use? Ah, I'd become ah, leery of the hierarchy, not to share too much with them.

AF: Is it fair to say Father, correct me if I'm wrong, but after the incident and I think I know where Bob's going with this, and I want to make this clear in my own mind. After it came to light,

PA: Huh, huh.

AF: the [REDACTED] thing came to light.

PA: Huh, huh.

AF: Think very carefully on this. After it came to light to the Bishop, the Diocese, did you have contact with anyone in Rochester after

PA: Sexually?

AF: Yes, sir.

PA: I never went back to Rochester. I was told to stay away from Rochester.

AF: When did you leave Rochester, sir?

PA: Either the end of August or the beginning of September of '81.

AF: Okay.

PA: I wasn't even, I didn't even go pack myself out of Rochester. The housekeeper and the cook.

AF: And the [REDACTED] incident came to light when?

PA: In either the late August or the beginning of September of '81.

AF: Okay, so where were you Father from late August of '81 until October of '81?

PA: I was in a, I was at a friend's cottage.

KK: Where was that?

PA: In Barrington, maybe. Barrington, Dover or somewhere around there. No it wasn't Dover.

JR: I have a couple of follow-up questions to make sure that I've got it in my feeble mind. Um, are we okay on the tape?

KK: Huh, huh.

AF: We can go for a while.

KK: No, we're safe.

JR: Um, the before it sounds like you had um contact with a number of individuals at Holy Rosary in Rochester and before any of it comes to the knowledge of the Diocese, did you on your own accord go to the Diocese?

- PA: Yes, I, I went before the [REDACTED] thing, before [REDACTED] called to tell the Bishop about it.
- JR: Okay. So before any complaint was made by [REDACTED] or anyone else, did you go on your own accord to see the Bishop?
- PA: Oh yes. Oh yes. Yes.
- JR: And which Bishop was that?
- PA: Bishop Gendron.
- JR: And um, you said it already, but when in time did you go um, on your own to Bishop Gendron?
- PA: That was, I think it was maybe the end of July, the beginning of August or somewhere in August.
- JR: Okay. And when you talked to the Bishop, you told us before that you told him you had a problem.
- PA: Yeah.
- JR: What specifically did you explain, tell us now what you told the Bishop was, was the matter.
- PA: I told him I had a problem. I told him to anticipate that there could be ah, something coming up with the [REDACTED], because of his trying to blackmail me since ah, January. That I thought he should be aware of that. That my problem lied in, in my inability to ah, have my boundaries in matters of sexual ah, behavior and that I needed to see, I wanted some help I needed to see a psychologist.
- JR: Okay. So you let him know that it was a problem with sexual (inaudible)
- PA: Oh yes, yes, yes.
- JR: And did he know at that time when you went in summer of '81 on your own, did he know that this problem involved contact with minors?
- PA: Well, he knew that they were young men in the parish. I presume, I don't know if he said that are they below 18 or what I don't recall whether he asked that specific question or not.

- JR: Did he know um, I know Kathy asked this, but um whether [REDACTED] was someone you met through um, the children in your youth group?
- PA: I believe I told him that he had been brought to me by the kids of the youth group, correct.
- JR: And did you let Bishop Gendron know that there were other children in the parish that you had had contact with?
- PA: I don't know if I did or not. I don't know if I did or not because I, I had reached that point now where I was leery as to what I could confide into my, my brother priests.
- JR: Now this is 1981, um, did Bishop Gendron say anything to you about the possibility that he would have to report this to law enforcement?
- PA: No.
- JR: No.
- PA: Not at that time.
- JR: And do you know whether or not um, and then soon thereafter it sounds like [REDACTED] um, surfaced and made her report to the Bishop herself.
- PA: Correct.
- JR: And do you know after that time whether the Bishop ever did make a report to law enforcement?
- PA: I have no knowledge of that to the best of my knowledge no, it never took place.
- JR: Were you ever contacted by law enforcement?
- PA: No. I was not.
- JR: In response to [REDACTED] complaint?
- PA: No. I was not.
- JR: Okay.
- AF: I have one follow-up question. In between going to the Bishop on your own Father, to tell them that you had a problem and from the time that you told the

Bishop that you had a problem until [REDACTED] complained? In that time span. Okay?

PA: I don't believe there was any sexual contact with anybody.

AF: Well I mean, well let me ask one question first.

RM: It's okay.

AF: Did Bishop Gendron send you back to Rochester, sir?

PA: Oh yes.

AF: And did you continue your duties at that time?

PA: I did indeed.

AF: Correct. Were there any restrictions placed on you?

PA: No there were not.

AF: And during that time span sir, think very carefully, did you have any sexual contact with any young man between going to the Bishop and the [REDACTED] complaint?

PA: Not to my recollection.

AF: Okay.

RM: But you were back on the job. You're back in the same duties, right?

PA: That's correct, but it was summer so everything was closed.

RM: Okay.

KK: When

RM: What's the length of time? Excuse me Kathy. The length of time between your disclosure to the Bishop and

PA: [REDACTED]

RM: And when [REDACTED] dropped the dime on you?

PA: I think it turned out to be just a few weeks.

RM: A few weeks.

PA: But I, I had no knowledge as to when it was going to be.

RM: Okay.

PA: Or if it was ever going to take place.

RM: Okay.

KK: When you had that meeting with the Bishop during the summer time,

PA: Yes.

KK: there, was there any mention of 1975?

PA: Oh, no.

KK: And having a very similar conversation?

PA: No, no as a matter of fact ah, if I may portray it, if you'll permit me to portray it ah, I shared what I told you I shared. There was no discussion of the matter other than who would you like to see as, is there any particular doctor that you would prefer. We have some psychologists here working for the Diocese. He says no, I want to have nothing to do with them. I says either I'm not going to go and see an ex priest hasn't been able to put his own priesthood in order to try and straighten my own priesthood.

KK: Huh, huh.

PA: No, I want somebody who has nothing to do with the church and he says oh who do you recommend? He said who would you like to see? I said there's a Dr. Desjardin I've sent people to from the parish and ah, he seems to be a very good doctor and ah I, I have, I've seen very good results of people that I've recommended to for him to see. I would prefer to see him. He says well I know him very well and ah if you don't mind I'll call him right now. He got up from the room we were, went to his office. The door was left open and I heard the conversation. He called the doctor directly. He called his secretary ah, I presume it was Frank.

KK: Huh, huh.

PA: Christian to ask for the phone number for Dr. Desjardin.

KK: Huh, huh.

PA: And he called Dr. Desjardin personally, himself, and asked if he could meet with me as soon as possible.

KK: Did he, did you hear him describe why?

PA: He said I have a priest whose got a problem that needs to be addressed immediately.

KK: And that was all he

PA: That was the extent of that in my presence.

KK: Okay. Do you know whether he had any conversation with Dr. Desjardin um, to give him any background information?

PA: No, he, he was out of it at that point. The one that took over at that point was Frank Christian.

KK: Okay. Do you know if anybody from the Diocese then, Frank Christian or, or anyone else had conversations with Dr. Desjardin to give him background information on what your problem was?

PA: No. I asked that specifically of my doctor.

KK: You did.

PA: And ah, my doctor says there was never any history given to him.

KK: All right.

JR: Um, there's a gap of time here between '75 when the Nashua incident occurs and '81 when you again had contact with the Diocese over the issue of sexual conduct. Um, was there any communication in between, in between the time you were transferred from Nashua to '81 where [REDACTED] when you went on your own to the Diocese? Was there any contact with Diocese officials in those five or so years in between, about the issue of sexual conduct?

PA: Absolutely not.

RM: Anybody call you up and say how you doing, Paul? How you getting along?

PA: No. They did not do that.

KK: Okay. Did you have contact with the [REDACTED] family once this complaint was made against you?

PA: No. I did not.

KK: All right. Um, did you ever see [REDACTED] again?

PA: No. I did not. I had a glance of his mother once when I had gone up for a dental appointment. And ah, she called the Diocese right after seeing me at that restaurant with my dentist and complained that I, that I had been seen in the Rochester area and I got a phone call from Frank Christian ah, giving me holly hell. I said I just went to see the dentist. I didn't see anybody else. I just went to my dental appointment. Well, you've got to change dentist as of today.

KK: And what was the timing of that from?

PA: Maybe a month or two.

KK: All right. All right. Do you know ah, anything about a petition made, developed by the parishioners of Holy Rosary ah, to ask for your removal?

PA: No. I became aware of that when I saw it from ah, um, Mr. McDaniel.

AF: I'm gonna just for the record, I have two pieces of paper in my hand.

PA: Yes.

AF: That appears to be in a petition form signed by numerous people.

PA: Yes.

AF: And I'll read the top. It says, "We the following do petition that Father Paul Aube be removed from Holy Rosary Parish because of his gross sexual misconduct upon certain young people among us." Have you seen that and I'm showing it to Father Aube. Have you seen that, sir?

PA: I have seen that ah, recently through my lawyer.

AF: Huh, huh.

KK: Did you know of it

PA: I did not.

- KK: at the time it was,
- PA: I did not.
- KK: may have been drafted?
- AF: I'm sorry. Do you recognize any names?
- PA: Oh, yes. I do recognize some of the names.
- AF: Who are those people?
- RM: Just start reading the list and see which names you recognize, Paul and, and briefly describe the context in which
- PA: I believe these kids that were in the youth group.
- RM: All of them?
- PA: There's [REDACTED] he was in the youth group. No. He wasn't in the youth group. He was in the confirmation class.
- KK: And what age group would that have been at that time?
- PA: That was seventeen. Seventeen years, sixteen, seventeen, eighteen.
- AF: Sir, are there names on there of boys that you had sexual contact with?
- RM: Read the whole list.
- PA: Nope.
- AF: None of the boys?
- PA: No. Or girls.
- AF: Or girls on that list?
- PA: That's correct.
- AF: You had
- PA: I've never, I've never had any sexual contact with them.

- AF: Okay. Were you aware at the time, Father, that you were at that parish that this
- PA: No. I was not.
- AF: had been circulated in any way shape or form?
- PA: No. I know that's to be a fraud.
- AF: Would
- KK: Why, what is it about it that makes it a fraud?
- PA: Because I had a chance to ah ask one of the names since my lawyer had showed me that I received a phone call from one of the persons whose name is on that list.
- RM: You're going to have to tell them who that is.
- PA: That was [REDACTED]
- RM: [REDACTED]
- PA: [REDACTED]
- RM: Hang on just a second.
- AF: [REDACTED] n.
- RM: What did [REDACTED] tell you about this?
- PA: He said, I asked him if he had ever signed a petition to get me out of the parish? I didn't say what the contents of it was. He said no, he had never been approached nor had he ever signed any petition to get me out. He was the President of the youth group. [REDACTED] just about lived at the Rectory with me. Just about, we, we were that close to each other.
- KK: Did you ever have sexual contact with him?
- PA: Oh no, no.
- KK: Why not?

- PA: Sick as it sounds I was only, I only had sexual contact I would say 95% of the people I had sexual contact with were people who ah, either doubted their sexual identity or already had had ah, homosexual experiences.
- AF: How old would [REDACTED] have been back during your service at Holy Rosary, approximately?
- PA: 16, 17, 18.
- AF: Where is [REDACTED] now?
- PA: He is a co-owner of computer company in ah, [REDACTED] called [REDACTED].
- AF: [REDACTED]
- PA: New Hampshire.
- AF: New Hampshire.
- KK: How did it come about that [REDACTED] called you?
- PA: We had been, we've always kept in touch.
- KK: Were you expecting to hear from him?
- PA: We've always kept in touch.
- RM: That wasn't the question.
- PA: Well, I don't know.
- KK: I mean, the timing of you having seen this document, this two page document
- PA: [REDACTED] had called me ah, because he wanted to have a trophy and my brother makes trophies. Now I, I have to, to be I have to be a little more open with you. [REDACTED] is also the brother-in-law of a young man by the name of [REDACTED] who has brought civil charges against me.
- RM: Well, I want this to be precise, Paul, and the distinction may be lost, but um [REDACTED] has filed a suit against the Diocese, which names as one of the actors, Paul Aube, but does not name Paul as party defendant to the civil action.
- PA: That's correct.

KK: Okay. All right.

RM: So [REDACTED]

PA: Is his brother-in-law.

KK: All right. And I'll have to, I'm going to just come right out and ask you. Did you have sexual contact with [REDACTED]

PA: No. I did not.

KK: Why would he say that you had?

PA: I'm not one to judge. I can only, I'll only share that when I got to meet [REDACTED] ah, he was having problems with ah, um, substance abuse. He was a young boy of fifteen, I believe. And um, his sister, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] was ah [REDACTED] was the Treasurer of the youth group. And [REDACTED] was the President of the youth group. And they use to talk about me a lot and [REDACTED] had come to see me and ah, I'd share and my questioning I hadn't become aware that he had a problem with substance abuse. I, I had no genital contact with [REDACTED] whatsoever. I did kiss [REDACTED] yes. I embraced [REDACTED] yes. I kissed [REDACTED] on the lip, yes.

KK: Huh, huh.

PA: But I never had genital contact with [REDACTED]

KK: All right. How long did that contact last with [REDACTED]

PA: That wasn't very long at all. That was in my last year there and ah, maybe my last months there.

KK: Did you ever see [REDACTED] after you left Holy Rosary?

PA: Yes, once.

KK: Tell me about that.

PA: He came to my house requesting ah, saying he had heard that I was gay and would I have anal sex with him. And I said, no.

KK: And when you say your house, where was that located?

PA: That was in Candia, New Hampshire.