

ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA

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SEP - 4 2007

August 28, 2007

Arthur Baselice Jr.
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Baselice,

I am writing in response to your letter dated June 11, 2007 and the request for documents related to the investigation of clergy sexual abuse against your son, Arthur, III, and the current location of Charles Newman and Regis Howitz. I apologize for the delay in responding.

Enclosed is the Victim Assistance Allegation of Abuse Summary that was taken on April 29, 2007. This is the statement obtained when a victim initially makes an allegation. We provide such statements to victims upon their request.

As you are aware, the investigation of the above two individuals was conducted by the Order of Friars Minor B Assumption Province since these men were members of the Order at the time of the abuse. The Archdiocese does not investigate abuse cases involving religious orders.

You mention in your letter a statement taken by Jack Rossiter, an investigator for the Archdiocese. I have learned that the statement was taken as part of an investigation into financial impropriety at Archbishop Ryan High School. Those records are maintained under the attorney-client privilege and not available for dissemination. They were, however, voluntarily turned over to the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office for investigation purposes.

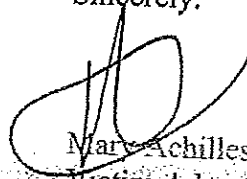
Like you, I have also requested information on the whereabouts of Charles Newman and Regis Howitz from Father Leslie Hoppe, O.F.M. The Province will not provide either you (as referenced in the June 20, 2007 letter from Father Hoppe, O.F.M., to you) or I with the exact location of these individuals. However, Fr. Hoppe was willing to tell me that they are not residing in the immediate area or anywhere in close proximity to your family.

At this time, we all await the ruling from the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith in Rome where the case against Charles Newman now resides. As to Brother Howitz, Fr. Hoppi informs me that his case did go before an independent review board affiliated with the order and that Regis Howitz admitted to the allegation against him. Since Regis Howitz is a not a priest his case is not sent to Rome. The options for the order are to let him go completely or to keep him in a restricted ministry. As Fr. Hoppi indicated to you in a letter from him to you dated June 20, 2007 Brother Howitz is on restricted ministry.

I am sorry that I can not provide all of the documentation you requested, but I have attempted to address each of your requests as outlined in your letter. I apologize for the delay, but I did want to confirm the information for accuracy prior to sending you this letter.

If you or your family is in need of any assistance please do not hesitate to contact the Victim Assistance Office at 1-888-800-8780.

Sincerely,



Mary Achilles
Victim Advocate

Enclosure(s)