

as he was the Bishop handling these matters. See Blanchette Aff.. Mr. Blanchette told Cardinal Law that there were many young men who needed the church's help and the church has an obligation to reach out to them. See Blanchette Aff.. Cardinal Law continued to urge Mr. Blanchette to speak with Bishop Banks about the matter. See Blanchette Aff.. Furthermore, in an attempt to silence Mr. Blanchette, Cardinal Law blessed him and stated "I bind you by the power of the confessional not to speak to anyone else about this. We don't want to destroy the reputation of this good man's ministry." See Blanchette Aff..

2. RICHARD BUNTEL

Father Richard Buntel ("Father Buntel") was ordained in 1971 and incardinated into the Archdiocese of Boston. See Buntel-2 003. From 1977 to 1983, Father Buntel served as part of Team Ministry at St. Joseph's parish in Malden, from which he resigned following "personality clashes and tensions." See Buntel-2 036. Around this time, Bishop Daily took a very active role in overseeing Father Buntel. See Buntel-2 041. In fact, Father Buntel was "sent away for a month" to Our Lady's Hall for alcohol abuse treatment. See Buntel-2 041. An August 1, 1983 memorandum from Bishop Daily to Father McCarthy memorializes a conversation the two of them had on July 30, 1983 regarding Father Buntel's alcohol and drug abuse and "personal problems." See Buntel -2-

041. While Father Buntel admitted to alcohol and drug abuse, Bishop Daily wrote, “he made no admission of personal problems.” See Buntel -2-041.

Despite the fact that Father Buntel admitted to having abused alcohol and drugs and despite the RCAB’s suspicions that there were other “personal problems,” including homosexual behavior, see Buntel-2 041, Father Buntel was assigned to St. Catherine’s parish in Westford in August 1983. See Buntel-2 042. In or about October 1983, Father Buntel sexually assaulted a 21-year old man who lived and worked at the rectory of St. Catherine’s after supplying this man with cocaine. See Complaint of Leeland Eisenberg v. RCAB et al, (“Eisenberg Complaint”).

The truth surrounding the break-up of the Team Ministry, Father Buntel’s treatment at Our Lady’s Hall and his subsequent transfer to St. Catherine’s, is memorialized in a 1994 memorandum from Bishop McCormack in response to a complaint that Father Buntel sexually molested a child from the ages of 15-21. See Buntel-2 092. Bishop McCormack wrote that Father “Kevin Crowley called— doesn’t doubt [victim’s] report.” See Buntel-2 092. Father Crowley and Father Guarino were assigned to St. Joseph’s at the time the abuse occurred and “Kevin complained to Dick. Mike showed Kevin all of Dick’s male pornography mags [sic] in Dick’s closet. Smelled marijuana, saw cocaine and thought he drank too much. Confronted Dick. [Father] Vic Lavoie did drugs a few times. Reported

Dick –told [Father Robert] Beale-only treated him for alcohol-which Kevin thought he was still doing cocaine. He returned to parish in a mo[nth]-not at all improved. Team broke up-Dick went to Westford.” See Buntel-2 092.

Father Buntel’s personal problems with drugs, alcohol and homosexual behavior were once again raised in November 1983 by Bishop John M. D’Arcy (“Bishop D’Arcy”), Auxiliary Bishop of Boston. See Buntel-2 046-047. In a letter dated November 1, 1983, Bishop D’Arcy wrote to Bishop Daily about a nickname used by kids for Father Buntel: “pothead.” See Buntel-2 046-047. He also told Bishop Daily that there was talk at Father Buntel’s previous parish (St. Joseph’s in Holden) about Father Buntel’s homosexual activity. Bishop D’Arcy highlighted that these activities could have a **devastating effect on children** and that a **scandal** may ensue for the Church. See Buntel-2 046-047 (emphasis added). Bishop D’Arcy stated that Father Buntel was well aware that people thought this about him and nevertheless refused to get help or treatment. See Buntel-2 046-047. Bishop D’Arcy expressed grave concern for the parish and the parishioners, as well as the **scandal** which could arise in Westford. See Buntel-2 046-047 (emphasis added). Bishop D’Arcy clearly stated that he believed that Father Buntel had **serious problems in the area of drugs, alcohol and homosexual activity**. See Buntel-2 046-047 (emphasis added).

On November 3, 1983, Bishop Daily responded to D'Arcy's letter and scheduled an appointment to meet with Father Buntel. See Buntel-2 048, 050. After meeting with Father Buntel, Bishop Daily wrote to Bishop D'Arcy explaining that Father Buntel "was upset and angry about [your] letter. . . in no way is there any question of scandal or admiration. . . I suggested to him . . . that it was my understanding that you had serious problems about potential scandal relating not only to alcoholism and drugs but, more especially, to **inappropriate activity about which we have previously discussed.**" See Buntel-2 051 (emphasis added). Bishop D'Arcy agreed to meet with Father Buntel and in a letter to Bishop Daily states "I certainly hope that his response to you represents the total truth. As you know, it is in some conflict with other reports." See Buntel-2 053. According to RCAB records, no further investigation was conducted and nothing was done to prevent Father Buntel from engaging in similar behavior at St. Catherine's.

In an April 27, 1984 memorandum from Monsignor Frederick Ryan to Bishop Daily, Monsignor Ryan told Bishop Daily that a social worker called stating her concern about Father Buntel's drug abuse and his use of drugs with children while at St. Joseph's. See Buntel-2 054-055. The social worker highlighted the effects this could have on children. See Buntel-2 054-055. Monsignor Ryan reported to Bishop Daily that in response to the social worker's

concerns, he pointed out that “in her own profession there would be guidelines for protection of the person who is in a problem, as well as trying to resolve and correct the difficulty.” See Buntel-2 054-055. Monsignor Ryan said that he asked the social worker to “keep the confidentiality of a professional as regards any information she may have secured about past situations at the parish.” See Buntel-2 054-055. It is clear from this memorandum that Monsignor Ryan’s goal was to keep this “problem” secret.

Despite the concerns of Bishop D’Arcy and the social worker from Westford, Father Buntel continued to serve the RCAB. Between 1988 and 1994 Father Buntel was passed over for pastorship five separate times. See Buntel-2 063, 073, 085, 086, 091. Father Buntel remained at St. Catherine’s until he was placed on Administrative Leave in 1994. See Buntel-2 003. Bishop McCormack’s memorandum, dated February 4, 1994, provides greater detail about Father Buntel’s abuse of a young boy at St. Joseph’s. See Buntel-2 092. After Father Buntel was transferred to St. Catherine’s, he took a boy to St. Catherine’s where they used drugs and Father Buntel sexually abused the boy. See Buntel-2 092. Children from Father Buntel’s previous assignment in Hudson would travel to St. Joseph’s to get cocaine from Father Buntel. See Buntel-2 092. Bishop McCormack also noted that the relationship between Father Buntel and the victim only stopped because Father Buntel was sent to “Milton” for treatment.

See Buntel-2 092. Even while in Milton, Father Buntel would visit the victim and they would continue to do drugs and Father Buntel would sexually abuse the boy. See Buntel-2 092. Father McCormack makes a note that Father Buntel is known as the **“blow king of Malden.”** See Buntel-2 092 (emphasis added).

Father Buntel was confronted regarding the victim’s allegations on February 28, 1994. See Buntel-2 103-104. Father Buntel admitted to the sexual activity, but denied knowing that the victim was a minor. See Buntel-2 103-104. Father Buntel also admitted to having contact with the victim after he left St. Joseph’s. See Buntel-2 103-104. He stated that the victim went to the Westford parish one time and then another time to Father Buntel’s home because the victim wanted assistance in buying a car. See Buntel-2 103-104. Father Buntel admitted that he had sexual activity with other older men and used cocaine and marijuana. See Buntel-2 103-104. He later denied that drugs, alcohol or homosexual activity were interfering with his ministry. See Buntel-2 103-104.

Father Buntel agreed to take an administrative leave and to have an assessment at St. Luke’s. See Buntel-2 103-104. It took the RCAB ten years to realize that Father Buntel was not fit to be a priest. Chancery officials notified the members of St. Catherine’s parish that Father Buntel was taking time off for personal and health reasons. See Buntel-2 109, 110. On February 25, 1994, Cardinal Law placed Father Buntel on administrative leave, effective March 1,

1994. See Buntel-2 102. “The blow king of Malden” (a.k.a. “pothead”) would never serve in parish ministry again. See Buntel-2 092.

3. ROBERT BURNS

Father Burns was a priest incardinated into the Diocese of Youngstown, Ohio in June of 1975. See BURNS2 290. His problem, in the words of RCAB personnel director Gilbert Phinn was “little children.” See BURNS2 011. In or about 1981, Father Burns was originally sent from Youngstown to a treatment center for priests in Massachusetts called the House of Affirmation. See BURNS2 011. The purpose of the placement was “to treat incidents of and a proclivity towards sexual activity with boys.” See BURNS2 290. In 1982, Father Burns approached the RCAB about the possibility of doing parish work. See BURNS2 290.

After meeting with Father Burns, Bishop Alfred Hughes informed Father Phinn that while Bishop Hughes “realizes there is a risk . . . Bp. Feels he can recommend placement.” See BURNS2 027. Bishop Daily was also aware of Burns’ problems and had reservations about the placement, see BURNS2 018, although, as Auxiliary Bishop, he would have to approve any assignment. On October 27, 1982, the House of Affirmation sent a letter to Father Phinn clearly stating that Father Burns ought not to be assigned to a position that “**placed him in a position to minister to minors.**” See BURNS2 290 (emphasis added).