

August 17, 1968

Rev. Jerome Hayden, O.S.F.  
Golden Road  
Rolliston, Massachusetts

Dear Father Hayden:

Within the next few days, I expect that you will receive a call from a 41 year old priest of this diocese whom I have advised to see you. I will be responsible for your professional service fees and any related expenses.

This man has been charged with molesting teen-age boys on at least two occasions—most recently in a hospital from which he has been barred—and with carrying around and showing to these boys pornographic magazines and books. Although the charges were established beyond any doubt in the judgment of the priests who assisted me in the investigation as well as myself, Father has denied any wrong doing. He continued to assert his innocence even in a confrontation with us and one of the boys—an 18 year old lad—who appeared at our request to detail the hospital incident.

I relate all this to point out that you may have some initial difficulty in getting this man to admit that he has a problem, even though he has readily agreed to see you. I did however repeatedly insist on his being completely open with you and can only hope that in a different set of conditions he will be less defensive and more truthful than he has been in his dealings with us.

Please know that I will be grateful for any help which you may be able to give this man. In due time, I would appreciate hearing of any progress you may also be able to report.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop of Worcester