

Director of Pastoral Care at the VA Center, had just called Nesselth to say that he would not accept Becker as chaplain at VA. Evidently, Joergenson checked with one or more priests in the area and found out about Becker's past history. I told Nesselth to convey to Joergenson my own strong feeling that Joergenson should discuss this with Becker after leading him on all the way to thinking he had the position and also to ask Joergenson why he would not give a person who is trying to start over a chance. Later, I called Father Becker and told him the bad news. I asked him to contact the state hospital in Winnebago and nail down that position. Unfortunately, he told me that he has already told them that he would not be available. I had asked him to keep the lines of communication open in case the VA thing fell through. Becker said that he also has an appointment in Orange, California on April 1 for a interview in a hospital out there.

3/7/84

496. Becker, Franklyn

He told me that he was out to St. Joseph's Hospital in Orange, California to look into the position of hospital chaplain that was offered there. By the time he had arrived there, however, they had chosen another priest for the position. Therefore, he has accepted the position at the Winnebago Health Center in Oshkosh. He will begin there on May 1, 1984. The contact person for the position is Mr. Steve Kearney, P.O. Box 9, Winnebago, Wisconsin 54985. Telephone: 235-4910. Becker asked if I would take care of the necessary follow-up and paperwork. I told him I would do that and be in contact with him.

4/11/84

522. Becker, Franklyn

I called Bishop Maida of Green Bay because it was impossible for me to get there to see him in person before Easter. We discussed the situation of Father Becker without my mentioning Becker's name. I gave him full disclosure of what the situation was and asked him if he would be willing to give the man faculties for work at the Mental Institution at Winnebago. Maida was quite understanding and said that he certainly would get back to me before Easter. He told me that he wanted to discuss this a bit further with Bishop Morneau and also with Msgr. Klister. I assured him that if Becker were to be accepted, I would see to it that he continues his psychotherapy and that if anything went wrong we would have Becker out of the Green Bay Diocese within 24 hours and that Becker would be suspended.

4/17/84

527. Becker, Franklyn

I spoke to Steve Kearney at the Winnebago Hospital (235-4910). He expects Becker to begin work sometime between May 7 and May 14. He has already spoken to Father Mercatoris and Msgr. Klister in the Green Bay Diocese. Becker's starting salary will be \$17,780.63. In a couple of months that will increase to \$21,336. In about six months it will increase 2-3%. He will be given a state pension and the right to an insurance program which will be an HMO or Blue Cross/Blue Shield (with a slight additional cost). He will receive two weeks vacation per year and three weeks at the end of five years. I told him that I would go ahead and try to work out the ecclesiastical details with the two dioceses.

4/18/84

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