

318. District Attorney

1. Without any names mentioned and off the record I described the situation regarding Franklyn Becker to E. Michael McCann, the District Attorney. His reaction immediately was that the priest has been given adequate warnings and enough chances and that he should not be assigned anywhere where he could come in contact with youngsters. This precludes practically any kind of assignment. His advice was that we restrict him from ministry for about five years and if no complaints come forth in that time then perhaps he can be given another chance.
2. He asked me about a situation at St. John de Nepomac involving slot machines. I told him that Father Badem collected old slot machines and every Monday night at a gathering of priests (AA group) in for a meeting, following the meeting they all played the slot machines. McCann was relieved to hear this but wants to track down where the complaint came from because he feels this would be an unsavory news item if it hit the press. Although he does not know whether this is illegal or not.

3/15/83

346. Becker, Franklyn

I met with him to request that he see Dr. Zimmerman, a psychiatrist for an opinion about his recent evaluation. I pointed out that we have some problems to deal with in assigning him and we all need more advice from professional people. Becker was very cooperative, signed the necessary letters of release, and will make an appointment today. He restated the fact that he wants to work as a priest and feels that he can do so responsibly in parish ministry. He told me that he has been inquiring about campus ministry in Illinois and Michigan where positions are open at the present. He asked if I had any objection to this, and I told him that I thought it ought to be discussed in the context of the total situation for which he is seeing Dr. Zimmerman. I told Becker that any priest who receives permission to work in another diocese needs to be recommended by the Archbishop and myself and that we feel very strongly about letting another diocese know if any problems are involved in a priest's situation. The next step is for Becker to see Zimmerman and then I will meet with Zimmerman and Becker.

3/23/83

366. Becker, Franklyn

He told me that he had made an appointment and will be seeing Dr. Zimmerman on Wednesday, March 30.

3/26/83

410. Becker, Franklyn

Father Metz told me that yesterday he observed Father Becker coming out of the transitional residence for priests with a young boy. Metz recognized the boy as the same one Becker took on the Caribbean vacation late last year.

4/6/83

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