

WILFRED WEITZ

ST. ANDREW'S ABBEY

BENEDICTINES



Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of
Vicar for Clergy
(213) 637-72843428
Wilshire
BoulevardLos Angeles
California
90010-2202

December 13, 2004

Confidential

Abbot Francis Benedict, O.S.B.
St. Andrew's Abbey
P.O. Box 40
Valyermo, CA 93563-0040

Dear Abbot Francis:

As Vicar for Clergy of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, I am so grateful for the many priests from institutes of consecrated life and societies of apostolic life serving the people of this local church. A large group of religious priests were present at our Presbyteral Assembly in October. Their participation enriched us and reminded us of how essential to the well-being of our people are the contributions of the many different orders present among us.

As you well know, we are still endeavoring to reach equitable settlements to the many lawsuits filed against the Archdiocese of Los Angeles and against religious orders. As you also know, as part of the settlement process in southern California, the judge has required that dioceses and religious orders/institutes prepare "proffers" regarding the issue of notice of any propensity of a priest towards inappropriate conduct with minors. The Archdiocese recently completed the process of having the proffers it prepared reviewed and verified by the judge.

Some of those proffers include priests from various institutes of consecrated life or societies of apostolic life, including yours. For other religious priests, especially those who served here in past decades, we have little or no file information and proffers were not prepared for these men. It is my understanding that you and your attorneys likewise are creating proffers as part of the mediation and settlement process.

Cardinal Mahony is now consulting with his advisors, especially our Presbyteral Council, on the wisdom of making these proffers available for review by our Catholic people. Currently, it is his intent to proceed with making this information available in some form, especially since some victims have indicated that the release of this kind of information can be helpful to their healing process. Release of such information also responds to the call from so many of our Catholic people for greater openness about how complaints of sexual misconduct have been handled. Thus, our sense is that there will be great value in taking the initiative now to release these documents ourselves, allowing us to do so in a constructive context and with appropriate explanation.

Pastoral Regions: Our Lady of the Angels San Fernando San Gabriel San Pedro Santa Barbara

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Letter to Provincial/Superior Regarding Proffers
Page 2 of 2

The Cardinal has asked that I write to each of the provincials/major superiors of communities from whom we have prepared proffers for one or more of your priests. Enclosed for your review is a copy of the proffer(s) related to priests of your community. As you can see, for the most part the proffer includes information on the priests' dates of birth and ordination, as well as their assignment histories within this Archdiocese. Occasionally, when our files have had the information, it may also include some assignments outside of our Archdiocese. When applicable, the proffers also include information on when notice of any kind of sexual misconduct by a priest was reported to Archdiocesan authorities. This, obviously, relates to the critical legal question of "notice."

As noted above, because of the limited nature of our files, we did not prepare a proffer for every priest from an order or society who may have been named in lawsuits alleging sexual misconduct with minors while serving in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. So if there is more than one priest from your community named in a lawsuit here, you may not find a proffer for each one.

We did not want to release the proffers of any priest of your community without first communicating our thinking to you, and allowing you to review the proffer(s) of any priest from your community. Certainly, if any of the information in our files is erroneous, we would very much appreciate receiving corrected information from you.

If you have any questions, please feel free to phone one of the attorneys
most familiar with the proffers, at (213) 694-1200. You are also welcome to phone me on
December 20, 21 or 22 at (213) 637-7284. I am not available from December 14-19 due to
duties that take me outside the Archdiocese.

In this Advent season of hope, let us pray for the healing and renewal of all of our people!

May God bless you!

Yours in Christ,


Monsignor Craig A. Cox, J.C.D.
Vicar for Clergy

enclosure

PROFFER RE FATHER WILFRID WEITZ, O.S.B.*

Date	Description
4/6/12	Born in Liege, Belgium.
7/25/36	Ordained.
10/27/91	Died.



Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of
Vicar for Clergy
(213) 637-7284

3424
Wilshire
Boulevard

Los Angeles
California
90010-2202

September 15, 2004

Abbot Francis Benedict, O.S.B.
St. Andrew's Abbey
P.O. Box 40
Valyermo, CA 93563-0040

Dear Abbot Francis:

Enclosed is a copy of lawsuit BC307941 filed on December 17, 2003. It may be that you have already received this, since it names St. Andrew's as a defendant.

We have been able to identify that the priest concerned insofar as the suit concerns the Benedictines is Reverend Wilfred Weitz, O.S.B.

One of our attorneys, _____ will be contacting you or your legal counsel to provide additional information about this lawsuit. Should you wish to contact Mr. _____ you may do so through Hennigan, Bennett & Dorman at (213) 694-1200.

May God continue to bless you and all of the monks of St. Andrew's.

Yours in Christ,

Monsignor Craig A. Cox, J.C.D.
Vicar for Clergy

enclosure

cc:

enclosure

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Ventura, California 93003
Telephone: 805.642.0392
facsimile: 805.642.0365

Attorney for St. Andrew's Abby

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

CARLOS T., et al.,
Plaintiff,

vs.

DOE 1, et al., St. Andrew's Abbey as Doe 18,
Defendants.

Case No.: BC 308363
Complaint filed: 12/24/2003
Assigned to: Department 20, Hon.
Haley J. Fromholtz

**DECLARATION OF ABBOT FRANCIS
BENEDICT, O.S.B.**

I, Abbot Francis Benedict, declare and state as follows.

1. I am the religious superior of Saint Andrew's Abby, Valyermo, California since 1992
and a vowed member of this monastery since 1970.

2. During the years 1959 to 1961 our monastery was not insured, except with auto and
casualty insurance.

3. Our records at that time in our history were not very clearly kept and our archives have
no specific information to provide.

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4. We did have an external insurance agent, Gerry Cramer from Orange County, who died in 1990. He had concluded his work with us about 1972. We have no access to his records

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

December 20, 2004

By:

Abbot Francis Benedict, O.S.B



Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of
Vicar for Clergy
(213) 637-7284

3424
Wilshire
Boulevard

Los Angeles
California
90010-2202

November 19, 2003

Abbot Francis Benedict, O.S.B.
St. Andrew's Abbey
P.O. Box 40
Valyermo, CA 93563

Dear Abbot Francis:


Thank you so much for connecting with me on the phone today. As I mentioned, in a list of prospective plaintiffs and alleged perpetrators recently received by the Archdiocese, was the name of Reverend Wilfred Weitz, O.S.B. Enclosed is a copy of the excerpt from the spreadsheet that the plaintiffs' attorneys provided. This is all the information we have up to this point. The "MM" under the column "Firm" refers to

As I mentioned, we will keep you apprised of any other information that comes to our attention.

You may wish to touch base with one of the lead attorneys of the Archdiocese, Mr. of the firm Hennigan, Bennett & Dorman. He can be reached at 213-694-1200. Certainly, if the Abbey hears anything in this matter.

May God continue to bless you and all the community of St. Andrew's!

Yours in Christ,


Monsignor Craig A. Cox, J.C.D.
Vicar for Clergy

attachment

ALLIED
 ORGANIZATION COMPLAINT

DIOCESE
 OF LOS ANGELES

LOCATED AT
 CLAREVILLE

PROVINCE/
 INSTITUTION

DATES
 OF ABUSE

FREQUENCY

NATURE OF

Weitz, Wilfred (OSB)	[REDACTED]	Archdiocese of Los Angeles	Clareville Seminary Provincial House; Camp Junipero Serra for Boys; Claretian Novitiate	Clareville Seminary Provincial House; Camp Junipero Serra for Boys; Claretian Novitiate	1959 - 1961	Numerous times	Physical molestation; Mastur- perpetrator; Grooming (porn)
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Diocese of Los Angeles

Location of witness

Prison/Institution

Date of Abuse

Frequency

Method of Alleged Abuse

Name of Plaintiff

Diocese of Los Angeles	Clareville Seminary Provincial House; Camp Junipero Serra for Boys; Claretian Novitiate	Clareville Seminary Provincial House; Camp Junipero Serra for Boys; Claretian Novitiate	1959 - 1961	Numerous times	Physical molestation; Masturbation; Plaintiff showering with perpetrator; Grooming (pornography)	MM
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Attorneys at Law
4220 Von Karman Avenue
Second Floor
Newport Beach, California 92660
949/729-3100 FAX 949/729-1527

April 2, 2007

Ventura, Ca. 93003
(805) 642-0392

RE: JOHN LE DOE v. DOE 1 (Roman Catholic Archbishop of LA)
DOE 2 (St. Andrew's Abbey)
DOE 3 (Claretian Missionaries-Western Province)
DOE 4 (Wilford Weitz)
DOE 5
Case number: BC 307 941

Dear Mr. :

It was a pleasure speaking with you this morning.

As we discussed, the above-referenced case has now been ordered "released from stay" by Judge Haley Fromholz, the coordination trial judge. Discovery may now proceed, and we can anticipate that the case will be set for a trial setting conference in the near future.

By prior order of the court, all parties were required to respond to "standardized" discovery, posted on the case home page. I enclose for your records and reference plaintiff's response to that standardized discovery as follows:

1. Plaintiff's Responses to Defendants' Standardized Interrogatories; and
2. Plaintiff's Responses to Defendants' Standardized Request for Production of Documents.

I also enclose a copy of the documents produced by plaintiff.

Defendants are required to respond to standardized discovery as well. Copies of those discovery requests are enclosed, as follows:

1. Standardized Document Requests from Plaintiff to Defendants;
2. Standardized Interrogatories from Plaintiff to Defendants;

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April 2, 2007
Page two (2)

3. Standardized Requests for Admission from Plaintiff to Defendants.

Although these discovery proceedings were previously "served" on all defendants on case home page, I have agreed to extend the time for your client, DOE 2, to respond to 30 days from the service of these request with this correspondence. Verified responses and production are therefore due on or before May 7, 2007.

The court has recently ruled on "omnibus" demurrers and motions to strike as to the complaint (see orders dated December 14, 2006 and February 27, 2007). We have entered into a stipulation with counsel for the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Los Angeles to deem the court's ruling applicable to this complaint as well. A copy of the stipulation is enclosed for your records and reference. Please let me know if your client will also file an answer in furtherance of the court's rulings regarding the complaint. If so, I suggest that your client file a notice of agreement to the stipulation (see page 3 of the stipulation), and file an answer on or before April 16.

I look forward to working with you in this, albeit difficult, matter.

Sincerely,

cc:

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