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1 COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

2 COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX

3 GREGORY FORD, et al.,  
Plaintiff,

4 vs. Superior Court  
Civil Action  
5 No. 02-0626

6 BERNARD CARDINAL LAW, a/k/a,  
CARDINAL BERNARD F. LAW,  
Defendants.

7 -----  
PAUL W. BUSA,

8 Plaintiff,

9 vs. Civil Action  
No. 02-0822

10 BERNARD CARDINAL LAW, a/k/a,  
CARDINAL BERNARD F. LAW, et al.  
11 Defendants.

12 -----  
ANTHONY DRISCOLL,  
Plaintiff,

13 vs. Civil Action  
14 No. 02-1737

15 BERNARD CARDINAL LAW, a/k/a,  
CARDINAL BERNARD F. LAW, et al.  
Defendants.

16

17 THE DEPOSITION OF MONSIGNOR WILLIAM H.  
HELMICK, a witness called by the Plaintiffs,  
18 taken pursuant to the applicable provisions of  
the Massachusetts Rules of Civil Procedure,  
19 before Kathleen L. Good, (CSR #112593),  
Registered Professional Reporter and Notary  
20 Public in and for the Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts, at the offices of Greenberg  
21 Taurig, One International Place, Boston,  
Massachusetts 02110, on Wednesday, May 22,  
22 2002, commencing at 10:00 a.m.

23 K. L. GOOD & ASSOCIATES  
P. O. BOX 6094  
24 BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02209  
TEL. (781) 598-6405

0211

1 A Yes.

2 Q But it's just common sense, isn't it?

3 MR. O'CONNOR: Objection.

4 Q It's common sense to let them know?

5 MR. O'CONNOR: Objection.

6 A It's something that I would have expected to have

7 happened.

8 Q By Cardinal Law and by Bishop Banks?

9 MR. O'CONNOR: Objection.

10 A Or whoever it was determined to bring it to the

11 attention of the pastor.

12 Q Well, we've already been through multiple

13 situations where statements were being made

14 against Church doctrine and you've testified it

15 was the job of Bishop Daily to bring it to the

16 attention of Cardinal Medeiros; correct?

17 A Correct.

18 Q That policy remained in effect after Cardinal Law

19 came on board; correct?

20 A Correct.

21 Q So you would have expected under the policies as

22 you understood it, when this letter from Wilma

23 Higgs was presented to you, that Bishop Banks

24 would have spoken to Cardinal Law about something

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1 as serious as this; is that correct?

2 A Yes. Correct.

3 Q You never spoke to Cardinal Law about what he did

4 or didn't do, though, did you?

5 A No, I did not.

6 Q This is now the third allegation and it's in

7 1985. Was there any requirement in 1985 that

8 child protection agencies such as DSS or the

9 police be notified about individuals serving as

10 priests of the Archdiocese of Boston who

11 represented clear threats to the safety of

12 children?

13 A Not that I know of.

14 (Helmick Exhibit No. 30, Letter,

15 5/15/85, marked for identification.)

16 Q Showing you Exhibit No. 30. This is from John

17 McCormack to Mrs. Higgs.

18 A Yes.

19 Q This is dated May 15, 1985. He states:

20 "Archbishop Law received your letter of

21 April 29, 1985. He is sorry to hear you were

22 disturbed about the talk given by Father Paul

23 Shanley last November regarding homosexuals and

24 asked that I respond on his behalf."

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14 vs. Civil Action  
No. 02-1737

15 BERNARD CARDINAL LAW, a/k/a,  
CARDINAL BERNARD F. LAW, et al.  
Defendants.

16

17 THE SECOND DAY OF THE DEPOSITION OF  
MONSIGNOR WILLIAM H. HELMICK, a witness called by  
18 the Plaintiffs, taken pursuant to the applicable  
provisions of the Massachusetts Rules of Civil  
19 Procedure, before Kathleen L. Good, (CSR  
#112593), Registered Professional Reporter and  
20 Notary Public in and for the Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts, at the offices of Greenberg  
21 Traurig, One International Place, Boston,  
Massachusetts 02110, on Wednesday, October 9,  
22 2002, commencing at 10:00 a.m.

23 K. L. GOOD & ASSOCIATES  
P. O. BOX 6094  
24 BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02209  
TEL. (781) 598-6405

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1 incident of sexual abuse of a child by anyone is  
2 viewed most seriously by the Church. Here in the  
3 Archdiocese of Boston, if there were to be an  
4 incident of sexual abuse by a priest, you can be  
5 sure that the matter would be taken most  
6 seriously with deep concern for the victim, the  
7 people and the priest."

8 That's what you write here, correct?

9 A Yes.

10 Q Did you speak to Cardinal Law about the letter  
11 that you received?

12 A I don't remember it.

13 Q And where you say that Cardinal Law asked you to  
14 respond to the letter of July 10, does that  
15 refresh your memory as to whether or not you  
16 spoke with the Cardinal about the letter?

17 A It does not.

18 Q Would you write that in a letter to this  
19 gentleman if you had not in fact been asked by  
20 the Cardinal to respond to the letter?

21 A No.

22 Q So writing here, "Cardinal Law has asked me to  
23 respond to your letter," is it safe to say  
24 that --

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1 A He did.

2 Q -- he did ask you to respond to the letter?

3 A Yes.

4 Q So Cardinal Law did know about the letter, July  
5 10, 1986, that was written by the gentleman that  
6 we just went over, correct?

7 MR. O'CONNOR: Objection.

8 A He must have.

9 Q In this letter, do you see anywhere where you ask  
10 for a meeting with the gentleman who wrote that  
11 letter?

12 A I don't.

13 Q And did you, in this letter, did you give the  
14 author of the July 10, 1986, letter information  
15 where he could possibly find help, treatment?

16 A I did not.

17 Q Did you suggest to Cardinal Law that he meet with  
18 this person?

19 A Again, I don't even remember the letter.

20 Q Does it say in the letter that you suggested that  
21 Cardinal Law meet with this person?

22 A In this letter?

23 Q Yes.

24 A No, it does not, no.