

ATTACHMENT TO TAYLOR/SARGENT PRESS RELEASE
Narrative Summary of Childhood Sexual Abuse By Priests and Flynn's Involvement

In 2014, [depositions](#), key [documents](#), and [files of Milwaukee archdiocesan priests](#) accused of childhood sexual assault were made publicly available. These files reveal that during his fifteen-year tenure as chief legal counsel for the Milwaukee Archdiocese, Matt Flynn was at the center of the organization's response to childhood sexual assault allegations against dozens of Milwaukee priests. Flynn was part of a team that received allegations of sexual abuse ([Budzynski](#), 24071), and was consulted in all assessments of these allegations ([Neuberger file](#), #53595-53600). It was Flynn who determined if a report was to be investigated and referred to the District Attorney. Within the thousands of pages of released priest files, there appear to be very few instances in which Flynn forwarded an abuse case to law enforcement. This failure to report led to an archdiocesan psychologist going directly to Archbishop Weakland in 2002 to complain ([Reinke Depo](#), p. 46-47).

Flynn had the most complete knowledge of the identities of the abusers and their assignments, and he maintained a list of abusive priests, most of whom were known abusers before Flynn's tenure ([Weakland depo](#), p. 43). Flynn gave directions to archdiocesan leaders about how child sexual abuse cases should be handled ([Weakland depo](#), p. 195). According to Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests (SNAP), during Flynn's tenure, twenty-three known abusive priests were transferred during Flynn's tenure to other assignments.

The following are specific examples that show Flynn knowingly transferred, paid off, secretly settled cases with victims, failed to report and in general, shielded abusive priests, allowing them to continue performing their duties and interacting with families and children. The numbers in parentheses refer to the document number in the individual electronic priest file, linked under each priest's name. "MA" throughout the document refers to the "Milwaukee Archdiocese."

RAYMOND ADAMSKY

[Adamsky file](#)

[Adamsky timeline](#)

This case highlights Flynn's central role in the Milwaukee Archdiocese's ("MA") handling of repeated child sexual abuse allegations against priests who were continually transferred within the archdiocese. Further, Flynn settled actual and potential civil lawsuits with secrecy clauses which further kept the public in the dark about Adamsky.

Adamsky was a priest in the MA from 1958 until his death in 2014. While pastor in a Hartford, WI parish, he was accused of sexually abusing children (9621-9623). Though allegations that he sexually abused girls began in the 1960s and continued for decades, he was never removed from the priesthood. In 1990 he was appointed as temporary administrator in a Racine parish, where he interacted freely with Catholic primary and secondary students, until additional child sexual abuse allegations from the 1960s were reported in 1989 (9623, 9625). He was eventually restricted from unsupervised contact with minors (9704-05). In 1992, high school students in the Racine parish where Adamsky was assigned reported feeling "uncomfortable"

with him because of Adamsky's "rough physical contact" with them when they were younger (9626).

Throughout this file are repeated contacts among Flynn, Bishop Sklba and Vicar Thomas Venne as they respond to sexual abuse allegations against Adamsky in the early 1990s (9625-9628, 9704-05). Despite these allegations, in 1992 Adamsky is assigned as chaplain to St. Monica, a Catholic senior living facility (9566, 9628). Vicar Venne notified Flynn of Adamsky's transfer and thanked him for meeting with them (9571). Adamsky eventually retired in 1993 as the MA continued to receive complaints of Adamsky's past sexual abuse of young girls (9618, 9632, 9746). Flynn and the MA reached settlements with past victims, some who initiated civil lawsuits, that required the victim's silence. (9732-9744). Adamsky received a full priest's pension and retained his priestly title (9618, 9725). He was never reported to authorities.

JAMES ARIMOND

[Armond file](#)

[Armond Timeline](#)

This case highlights Flynn's payoffs to priests who had engaged in the sexual abuse of children. Armond went on to become a family therapist without interference from the MA or Flynn.

Armond had one of the few convictions for sexual abuse of a minor after the victim's father reported him to police (10203-10214). Despite the four year duration of the abuse and another child making similar allegations, in 1990 Armond pled to one count of fourth degree sexual assault. While on probation and afterward, Armond continued to perform priestly duties and even wore his collar (10114). Though the MA warned Armond not have contact with minors, they relied on Armond self-reporting such contact (9958). In July 1993, Weakland says he can not assign him any pastoral ministry because of the public scandal associated with his name (10197).

In October 1994, Matt Flynn proposed a \$25,000 settlement to Armond for use "anyway he sees fit" in exchange for him voluntarily leaving the priesthood. Flynn characterized the offer as "best for everyone involved" (25158). Armond eventually agreed and additionally received pension and healthcare for six months (24928). Armond subsequently received a 3/13/96 check for \$25,000 (24915) and a 3/15/96 check for \$12,500 (25228). In January 1995, Armond was granted a state counseling license to work with families. Flynn/MA didn't take any action to stop or notify the state. Another child sexual assault victim from 1990 came forward in 2002, and other victims followed (25195, 24927, 29814). In 2003, Armond's counseling license was eventually repealed by the state, but he had already left Wisconsin (25213).

DANIEL BUDZYNSKI

[Budzynski File](#)

[Budzynski timeline](#)

[Budzynski Deposition](#)

This case highlights Flynn’s central role in the MA’s handling of repeated allegations of child sexual abuse against priests who were then transferred. ([Milwaukee Journal Sentinel “Budzynski case shows patterns of secrecy, parish-shifting,” July 1, 2013](#)).

Budzynski was one of the most prolific, documented child sexual abusers during his tenure as a priest from 1956-2005, in which he admitted to sexually abusing approximately 50 children (24132). Allegations of sexual abuse were made against him throughout his career, with his assignments being punctured by multiple transfers and leaves of absences to seek treatment (23776, 23779). Unfortunately, many transfers between parishes involved teaching children and several campus ministries, even after many allegations of sexually inappropriateness and abuse (23713, 23869).

New allegations of child sexual assault emerged in 1994. These were from a victim who claimed that Budzynski raped her when she was between six and seven years old, in approximately 1970 (23742). Flynn was part of the team that received sexual abuse allegations (Budzynski, 24071). Budzynski had a “legal discussion” with Matt Flynn (23866). MA assembled a three-person “assessment team” that provided a 1994 evaluation of Budzynski. This team was composed of psychologists and criminal experts that reported to Flynn, among others (23866 and [Neuberger file](#), #53595-53600 that sets out protocol and central role of Flynn as legal counsel). During the evaluation, Budzynski admitted not only to recent sexual assault allegations, but to sexually abusing dozens of children throughout his career (24131-24144). The evaluation is missing from the file, but referenced in other documents (24132) and [media reports](#). Both the archbishop and Matt Flynn were charged with making recommendations about how to proceed in sexual abuse cases. The priest files reveal that no immediate actions were taken against Budzynski, who was still deemed to be in good standing. Though Budzynski’s admitted sexual abuse of children expanded over decades, no efforts appear to have been taken to locate victims or identify additional victims.

After his evaluation, Budzynski was allowed to retire in 1994 with full benefits (23676). He was not restricted in his ministry until Archbishop Weakland forbade him from public ministry and contact with minors in 1995 because of the “seriousness of violations alleged to have occurred by you” (23841). But Budzynski still wore the collar and “helped out” at various parishes on an as-needed basis. In an April 2001 letter Weakland rejected Budzynski’s request to engage in specific public ministries because, reasoning that although his “serious difficulties of the past” never publicly surfaced nor were brought to legal authorities, they still could have been in the future (23849). Budzynski was not ordered to stop representing himself as a priest until 2003.

JOSEPH COLLOVA

[Collova File](#)

[Collova Timeline](#)

The Collova case highlights Flynn’s role in deciding whether to commence an investigation of sexual abuse charges against priests and his actions to secretly payoff priests to voluntarily leave the priesthood who had histories of child sexual abuse.

Sexual abuse allegations arose against Collova in 1985 when he was a pastor at St. James church in Franklin and was accused of molesting a 14 year old boy (8151). Collova was then transferred to St. Rita Parish in Milwaukee. More sexual assault allegations were made in 1992, detailing more incidents at St. James involving teenage boys (7989, 8407-08). Collova agreed to enter a church residential treatment program, and not to return to St. Rita parish and rectory. However, he left treatment halfway through the program (8142).

In June 1993, the MA psychologist reported that Collova was back in Milwaukee spending time with minors, including some of the victims of his abuse at St. Rita's (9138-39). The vicar log records that Matt Flynn initially declined to authorize the MA to investigate Collova's activities (8142). Flynn ultimately authorized a limited investigation "with the understanding that it was not an extensive inquiry in the parish, but contact with a group of young adults with whom Joe had been socially active over the past ten years" (9138). Because of his refusal to cooperate, Collova was suspended from public ministry in July 1993 (9138).

The MA's emergency intervention team was called in July 1993, which reported to Matt Flynn, and referenced needing to consult with him about civil and criminal cases against Collova (8015). A civil lawsuit was filed in September 1993 against Collova. The MA psychologist (Liz Piasecki) reported to Weakland that Collova was still spending time at the rectory and "the media doesn't need to see Collova's face coming out of that rectory" (8028). Piasecki again reported to Weakland that the safety of the community is at issue (8201). No action appears to have been taken.

In 1996 Collova was reported to be violating his limited ministry restrictions (8135). He continued to receive a salary and living expenses from the MA, which also paid his legal fees (8066). In a letter to Collova in September 1997, Weakland referred to three different, independent psychological examinations of him that all concluded he had "psychosexual problems" (8092).

In 1997, Matt Flynn proposed a payout of \$20,000 to Collova, in addition to his full pension benefits, to voluntarily leave the priesthood (8099). Collova, however, remained a priest without assignment. He was excommunicated in 2004 for becoming a priest with the Evangelical Catholic Church of America (8428-29).

MICHAEL KREJCI

[Krejci file](#)

[Krejci timeline](#)

Krejci is an example of a priest repeatedly accused of sexual abuse, who was transferred and allowed to work as a priest during Flynn's tenure, despite an alarming clinical diagnosis. Krejci was one of six priests in 2002 identified by MA who was still in the priesthood despite numerous sexual abuse allegations (15447).

Since Krejci's first appointment to Our Lady of Good Hope (OLGH) in Milwaukee, allegations of inappropriate behavior and sexual abuse of children circulated about him (41421). Complaints continued when he was transferred to St. Gall Parish in 1996, where it was alleged that a 16 year

old boy lived with him in the rectory (15230-15242). In June, 1994 another priest informed Weakland about Krejci's sexual abuse of an adolescent boy in the early 1980s (50010).

In therapist notes from July to October, 1994 several sexual abuse reports and allegations are noted, including from the summer of 1989, February 1992, May/April 1992, May 1994 and October 1994 (15005-15036). These include oral sex with minors, viewing pornography with minors, exposing himself, and assaulting a sleeping minor.

In October 1994, Bishop Sklba arranged a meeting with Matt Flynn, Archbishop Weakland, Bishop Sklba, the MA psychologist, and Krejci to decide how to proceed (41422). Two psychological evaluations followed (41912), with one physician from the medical college concluding that Krejci displayed "Sexual compulsivity and violations of boundaries and Antisocial Personality Disorder with Narcissistic and Passive Aggressive Traits." In November 1994, the same day MA met with the physician, Flynn met with Krejci, MA psychologist, Archbishop Weakland and Bishop Sklba to discuss the situation (41354). Krejci was sent to New Orleans for assessment and a residential and other treatment program in a church facility in St. Louis from February 1995 until April 1996 (41912). Parishioners were told Krejci was merely taking some time off (15000). Reports from the treatment facility stated "[N]ormal inhibiting mechanisms, such as guilt and remorse, do not appear to impede Michael's problematic sexual behavior...." (14955-14958) and "Some of his [Krejci] sexual preferences are of a very dangerous nature" (14860).

By July, 1997, however, despite Weakland's prior statements that Krejci could not function as a priest (15129), Krejci was appointed Assistant Priest at St. Theresa Parish in Eagle, with restrictions including no unsupervised contact with minors (15276, 15280). A February 17, 1998 Vicar's log includes a long, redacted entry entitled "Reflections of Matt Flynn" about Krejci. In June 1999 Krejci was appointed Pastor of St. Theresa (15445).

Subsequently, more allegations of sexual abuse emerged, including having sexual intercourse with minors while at St. Gall parish (14734) and an 1979 incident in which the victim was approximately 12 years old (14734, 15402). The MA psychologist noted that Krejci admitted to molesting the victim's friend but not the reporting victim (35407). Krejci was invited to confer with Matt Flynn regarding a review of a special commission regarding sexual abuse allegations against priests (15447). Krejci was removed by the archdiocese from the parish (15060). In July 2003, Krejci was offered \$20,000 by the MA to voluntarily leave the priesthood (15382), which he refused and was eventually subjected to a canonical trial in Milwaukee.

DANIEL MASSIE

[Massie file](#)

[Massie timeline](#)

This case is an example of a priest who had a substantiated claim of sexual abuse against him yet was repeatedly transferred between parishes.

Currently a licensed social worker in the State of Wisconsin, Father Daniel Massie was accused in the late 1980s of sexually assaulting two young girls (44750), including binding one victim's

hands and feet. The assault was reported to the Germantown Police Department (30490-30494), and despite the Deferred Prosecution Agreement (30506-30508), Massie continued to function as a priest, and was transferred three times between 1992 and 1998 (44676, 18266, 44877).

In 2003, Archbishop Dolan petitioned to remove Massie (39983-39984), citing the abuse incident to which Massie had admitted. Though he initially resisted his removal, Massie voluntarily petitioned for laicization and left the priesthood in 2009. (40003-40006)

LAWRENCE MURPHY

[Murphy file](#)

[Murphy timeline](#)

[NYT Story on Murphy](#)

[Documents missing from Murphy's MA file but posted by the NYT](#)

The Murphy case is an example of Flynn knowing and strategizing with the archdiocese about serial child abusers who are never reported to authorities and continued working as a priest. Murphy was allowed to continue as a priest even after a [1993 forensic evaluation](#) by the archdiocese which concluded that Murphy had likely sexually abused at least 200 deaf children. The Murphy story was investigated and reported in detail in [The New York Times in 2010](#).

Documents show that in the fall of 1993, as continued sexual abuse allegations were emerging against Murphy, the MA psychologist met with Murphy in Boulder Junction. She told Murphy the allegations are serious and could no longer be ignored. She arranged for Murphy to “come down to the archdiocese and give his side of the story.” Murphy requested a meeting with the archbishop when he arrived as well as legal counsel (37839). On 11/24 Flynn met directly with Murphy. Weakland, Sklba, the Vicar of Priests, and the MA psychologist joined him. Murphy agreed to an evaluation by a forensics expert hired by the archdiocese. Murphy was told not to practice public ministry nor have contact with youth. Flynn returned Murphy unsupervised to Boulder Junction. (37389) On 12/19/94 Flynn’s role in the Murphy case was detailed for the archdiocese as a member of the “Emergency Intervention Team.” Specifically, he was to assess liability issues and overview the strategies that would be planned and implemented concerning Murphy (37587).

On 12/23/93, a three day forensics evaluation arranged by the MA was conducted in which Murphy admitted to abusing large numbers of children. The evaluation concluded that it was likely that [Murphy abused 200 deaf children](#) during his time at the school.

No criminal report was ever made by Flynn, and no public notification was given to the deaf community or to the parish where Murphy was conducting ministry in Boulder Junction. In the mid-1990’s Murphy was subjected to a secret canon law trial in Milwaukee. His case was forwarded to Rome for dismissal from the priesthood, which Rome refused. Murphy died in 1998.

MICHAEL NEUBERGER

[Neuberger file](#)

[Neuberger timeline](#)

This case is an example of a priest who had substantial sexual abuse allegations, and even admissions of sexual abuse, after which he was transferred to another parish. Despite the MA's own crisis team's assessment that the 1993 civil complaints were likely true to which Flynn was privy, Flynn pursued attorneys fees against victims whose claims were outside the statute of limitations and accused them of committing fraud.

Milwaukee Archdiocese files reveal decades of child sexual abuse allegations against Neuberger, including having sexual intercourse with teenagers, from the late 1960s (19025) through the 1990s. They also outline repeated job transfers, including new assignments involving teaching children. Multiple complaints were made to MA in the 1980s and into the early 1990s to Bishop Sklba, who met with some of the victims but did not pursue further actions.

After a 1992 allegation by a victim alleging Neuberger sexually assaulted him in the rectory after confession (38395), Bishop Sklba wrote that he “brought the matter to the attention of Matt Flynn” saying “I certainly followed all directions given to me by Matt Flynn at the time” (53647).

Despite pending sexual allegations, Neuberger was transferred in April, 1993 to become pastor at St. Catherine's. In May, 1993, lawsuits were filed alleging sexual abuse of two teenagers, with another lawsuit following in the fall of 1993 (39126, 38385-6). A crisis team was assembled, including Flynn, that called for an extensive psychological examination of Neuberger. In this examination, Neuberger admitted to a variety of sexual encounters with minors, indicating a strong preference for “marginalized and very vulnerable” youth of color saying, “I didn't do white kids” (38401, 38403). The experts concluded that “. . . Neuberger's primary sexual attraction is to adolescent and younger adult men, and that there is likely veracity to the civil complaints...”(38401) .

Neuberger was allowed to remain in the ministry with some restrictions including no unsupervised contact with minors (18841). He was placed on a leave of absence and though he was not reinstated to his former position, he continued to remain a priest (53753) until 2010 when he was removed (38914, 50682).

Though Matt Flynn was privy to this report, he later said in reference to a victim's civil case against Neuberger, “There's fraud going on out there, there really is fraud going on out there” (*Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, Jan 28, 1997). After the civil case was dismissed due to the statute of limitations, Flynn filed court costs against one of Neuberger's victims for \$15,704.36 (case # 1993CV005041).

