

RE: FISH POND VISIT

Case: 10 - Hotline Web
Diocese of Buffalo
Harassment & Inappropriate Behavior

FROM: BROCK EVERETT
DATE: FEB 26 2018

Case Snapshot

Opened: 2/27/2018
Days open: Less than 24 hours
Last modified: 2/27/2018 6:02 PM
Intake method: Hotline Web
Status: Unreviewed
Alert: Green

SPERMUS - MALE -
FRIEND SHARING WITH HIM

REPORTING INSTANCES

CC: BROCK EVERETT
LAWRENCE QUINN
FILED

General Case Info

Case number: 10
Received/Reported date: 2/27/2018
Language: English
Assigned tier: Diocese of Buffalo

Issue

Primary issue: Harassment & Inappropriate Behavior

Case Details

Reported tier information

Case type: Allegation

Intake method: Hotline Web

Location

Organization/Building name: Diocese of Buffalo

Location name: St. Mary Parish - SWORMVILLE

City: SWORMVILLE

Reporter contact information

Is the reporter an employee? No

Reporter anonymous: Yes

Case Information

What is your relationship to the organization? Other / Do not wish to disclose

Please identify the person(s) engaged in this behavior: Yetter - Father

Do you suspect or know that a supervisor or management is involved? No

Is management aware of this problem? Do Not Know / Do Not Wish To Disclose

+
TO: BROCK
MALCOLM
JEROME
+ CUM
FYI 5/29/18

2/27/2018

What is the general nature of this matter? A close male friend of mine disclosed to me that he was invited to Father Yetter's home, was provided alcohol and at one point Father Yetter had unzipped my friend's pants. My friend immediately felt uncomfortable and left. Father Yetter was his parish priest and he did not feel comfortable bringing this up as he knew a family that was involved with the church.

Where did this incident or violation occur? At Father Yetter's home

Please provide the specific or approximate time this incident occurred: 2009

How long do you think this problem has been going on? More than a year

How did you become aware of this violation? I observed it

If other, how? I was informed by my friend about his encounter with Father Yetter. Father Yetter would call and leave him voicemails asking him to come over. Father Yetter was persistent and my friend eventually said "I need to stop avoiding him and go see him." He asked me to accompany him to the house because he did not feel comfortable going alone and I went. I can tell you where the liquor cabinet is. Father Yetter's conduct was not something I was familiar with of a catholic priest. He provided alcohol and when we left, he made uncomfortable embraces to both of us. I know this doesn't provide a lot of information, but I am hoping that if someone else has made a claim, that this could potentially substantiate it.

Details: Around 2009, my friend had mentioned to me that he thought he may have been abused by a priest. He explained that he was at Father Yetter's house and they had been drinking for quite a bit (friend was not of legal drinking age). He was drunk and at one point, Father Yetter's hands had gone near his pants. Father Yetter had started to unzip his pants when he became startled and left Father Yetter's house. Father Yetter constantly called his cell phone despite him not even being a member of the St. Mary's parish. [REDACTED] was not a troubled young man and had things going well in his life. Several times my friend and I would be together and he would receive calls on his phone and sometimes he would take them. Often he would use the excuse that he was going to explain to Father Yetter that he could not talk or go to his house (even when we were not together). Once, Father Yetter had persisted so much that my friend brought me to Father Yetter's home as protection from anything he might do. We went in, and Father Yetter offered us hard liquor in his cabinet. When we declined, he offered us beer. I chose the beer as it was something I felt I could control myself more. There was no touching during this meeting but there was an uncomfortable embrace at the end of the meeting. After the encounter, I immediately knew what my friend was describing. I believe some of Father Yetter's actions were a result of grooming behavior. My friend is very involved with the church and was afraid of saying something. The recent story in the Buffalo News about the priest from St. John Vianney made me think about this story. I hope there has never been sexual assault on other young boys, I am submitting this so that if there has ever been an allegation on Father Yetter, that this may help substantiate someone else's claim.

Legacy information