Road to Recovery, Inc. P.O. Box 279 Livingston, New Jersey 07039

BERGEN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL IS RE-VICTIMIZING FOUR SEXUAL ABUSE VICTIMS BY FOOT-DRAGGING AND NOT ACTING REASONABLY IN SETTLEMENT NEGOTIATIONS

BROTHER CHARLES IRWIN AND BROTHER JOHN CHANEY ARE WELL-KNOWN AND ACKNOWLEDGED SEXUAL ABUSERS OF MINOR BOYS AT BERGEN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

BERGEN CATHOLIC MUST ACT REASONABLY IN SETTLEMENT NEGOTIATIONS WITH VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ABUSE, VALIDATE THEIR CLAIMS, AND ALLOW THEM TO HEAL

Br. Charles B. Irwin, CFC, and Br. John B. Chaney, CFC have been recognized by Bergen Catholic High School and the Congregation of Christian Brothers as being serial sexual abusers of minor boys. Some of their sexual abuse occurred at Bergen Catholic High School. Among the many abused students of Br. Charles B. Irwin were three students, including Kevin Malone, now known as Rev. Kobutsu Malone, a Buddhist monk, who has told a credible story of having been sexually abused in his Bergen Catholic High School classroom as a minor teenager.

The victim of Br. John B. Chaney has also told a credible story of having been sexually abused as well. All four men are looking for a fair and just resolution to their claims, but Bergen Catholic High School representatives have been dragging their feet and are not being reasonable in settlement negotiations.

We are here today to demand that Bergen Catholic stop its foot-dragging and return to reasonable and fair negotiations. The longer Bergen Catholic High School is unreasonable, the more the victims of Br. Charles Irwin and Br. John Chaney are re-victimized. Victims of sexual abuse deserve better treatment. Bergen Catholic High School must negotiate reasonably so the sexual abuse victims of Br. Charles Irwin and Br. John Chaney are not continually re-victimized.

You might be at Bergen Catholic High School this evening to attend the graduation of Bergen Catholic High School, or you might be a neighbor of the school or just passing by. Bergen Catholic High School officials do not practice what they preach. They tell their students to act justly but do not demand that of themselves. They are classic followers of the "Do as I say, not as I do" adage which is hypocritical and unjust.

We are sure graduates this evening will hear all kinds of pious platitudes from the administration, but if the Bergen Catholic High School administration continues to re-victimize sexual abuse victims of former Bergen Catholic High School teachers, their words will continue to ring hollow. Bergen Catholic High School must act reasonably and fairly negotiate so victims can begin to heal.

Contacts

Rev. Kobutsu Malone, Sedgwick, Maine – 207-359-2555 Robert M. Hoatson, Ph.D., Road to Recovery, Inc. – 862-368-2800 Attorney Mitchell Garabedian, Boston, MA – 617-523-6250