

ST. ANTHONY'S SEMINARY  
INDEPENDENT BOARD OF INQUIRY

PRESS RELEASE - MARCH 1993

The St. Anthony's Seminary Independent Board of Inquiry was convened in late January; its composition and purpose is described in the attached letter to former students [with included biographical sketches of board members].

This letter has been mailed to approximately four hundred students so far, and the board is actively seeking ways of contacting the approximately three hundred remaining students for whom valid current addresses are not available.

In addition to developing its own internal policies and procedures, the Board has been active in interviewing former students, and family members of former students, and has gathered a significant amount of information concerning instances of sexual abuse of students of the Seminary.

While the information varies in its specificity and weight, and while the Board is not yet able to make conclusive determinations about reports of abuse by friars, the Board is actively and carefully looking into reports of questionable conduct by several friars other than those already named in the letter referred to above.

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[Continuation of Press Release of March, 1993]

The Board recognizes the importance of keeping former students and the members of the St. Anthony's Seminary Greater Community (a group much like members of a parish), as well as the community as a whole, apprised of its progress. It is also aware of the need to maintain confidentiality of the persons contacting the Board, so that victims feel safe in coming forward. Consequently, periodic press releases will be issued. Further, there will be periodic meetings with the Greater Community to which the news media will be invited. The next such meeting is scheduled for the evening of March 18th, and members of the media are requested to contact the Board for specifics.

Finally, the Board wishes to enlist the help of the media in disseminating the message that it wants to hear from any person, whether former student, member of the Boys' Choir or otherwise, who was the recipient of either physical or non-physical contact by a member of St. Anthony's staff or faculty, which hurt him or left him feeling confused, frightened, guilty or bad about himself.

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