

**Minutes  
Independent Review Board  
March 21, 2002**

CONFIDENTIAL

**Carlos Urrutigoity** The Southdown Institute did not recommend residential treatment for Carlos. His problems were classified under umbrella of personality disorders, principally antisocial and narcissistic. Residential treatment is not effective for such disorders. Southdown strongly recommended that he undergo spiritual direction and counseling, hoping that Carlos would acquire some insight into his personality in order to reign in his tendencies toward grandiosity and extravagance that has had a harmful impact upon all who have been associated with him in the Society of St. John. He has been removed from ministry and his case is under investigation by the proper legal authorities.

**Eric Ensey** The Southdown Institute strongly recommended that Eric undergo residential treatment to address severe anxiety and depression. He has been suffering these symptoms for several years. In addition, the Southdown evaluation revealed that Eric struggles with a repressed sexuality that has been plaguing him recently, contributing to his anxiety and depression. His sexual attraction is toward adolescent boys, a stage that he appears to be locked into.

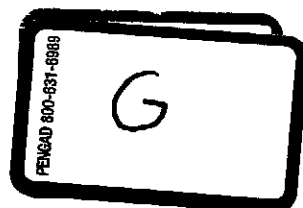
The Vicar For Priests received the above reports during separate conference calls. The written report was sent to Eric and Carlos' lawyer who will not release them to the Diocese of Scranton.

**Thomas Skotek** is an active pastor in the Diocese of Scranton, and his case of sexual misconduct occurred before the IRB had been established. With amazing synchronicity a new case emerged from an adult woman who alleged that Father Thomas had been sexually involved with her during her teen years while he was a young assistant pastor. Also, another of his victims came forward at the same time, a case that had been addressed in the late 1980s, looking for some additional money to help her during a difficult time. The diocese did not acquiesce, and referred the matter to Father Skotek who gave her \$4000. The discussion centered around whether or not he should lose his parish. Would this cause such a stir that the press would immediately latch on to his sudden departure? Could Father Skotek inform his parishioners that his sudden resignation was due to health reasons? Bishop Timlin decided to retire Father Skotek on Easter Monday, and that he was to inform his parishioners it was due to health concerns. The concern for discretion became a moot point when a reporter in the parish pursued the matter, and soon after the story ran on the front page of the newspaper.

Anticipating the Dallas meeting of Bishops in June the board decided to convene again in one month to review all cases of priests in the Diocese of Scranton who might be affected by the bishops' directives in Dallas.

#### **Review/Evaluation of Sexual Abuse Policy**

This policy has served the Diocese of Scranton well though the recent past, but it will undoubtedly change in response to the Dallas Charter and the level of openness that the current



**Individual Cases Organized Alphabetically According to Name  
With Background Information and Recommendations**

***Reverend Eric Ensey***

**Background Information:** On January 12, 2002, Bishop Timlin received a letter from the Apostolic Nuncio with the name of a victim who makes allegations of sexual misconduct against Father Ensey. [REDACTED] asserted that his son [REDACTED] was abused by Father while he was a student at Saint Gregory's Academy in 1997-1999. The priest is accused of providing alcohol to the youth and then requiring that he sleep in the same bed at the school. There is also the assertion that during a trip to California the priest touched the boy's "private area and also unwelcomingly [sic] jumped into the shower" with [REDACTED]. Father Ensey, who denied the allegations, was relieved of his duties at the Society of St. John headquarters in Shohola. The Clergy Review Board met on January 22, 2002 to consider the allegations against Father Ensey. The Board recommended that Father be evaluated. On February 15, 2002, the Chancellor turned over [REDACTED]'s letter to the chief of detectives for Lackawanna County. Father Ensey was evaluated at The Southdown Institute in Canada from March 4-7, 2002. Currently, he is residing at a private residence in Pike County with the former superior of the Society, Father Carlos Urrutigoity, who is also accused of sexual misconduct by [REDACTED].

**Committee Recommendation to the Bishop and Clergy Review Board:** Father Ensey should be strictly prohibited from any public ministry of any kind; he should have no contact with any young person. Father should be required to inform the Vicar for Priests of any activities outside of his current residence that may draw attention to himself. All travel plans should be approved in advance by the Vicar.

CONFIDENTIAL

**Reverend Carlos Urrutigoity**

**Background Information:** On February 10, 1999, Bishop Timlin received a letter from Bishop Bernard Fellay, Superior General of the St. Pius X Society, which alleges that Father Carlos Urrutigoity, a member of the Society of St. John, had improper sexual contact in 1997 with a 22-year old seminarian named Matthew Selinger. When questioned by Bishop Timlin about this, Father Urrutigoity denied the allegation. No report was made to any governmental authority. On July 28, 1999, Bishop Dougherty, Father Kopacz, and Attorney Francis X. O'Connor interviewed the seminarian in Minnesota. In a report of the meeting prepared for Bishop Timlin, the auditors who met with the young men concluded: "All the auditors are inclined to believe Matthew Selinger." On September 14, 1999, the Urrutigoity case was brought before the Clergy Review Board which determined that the evidence was inconclusive given Father's firm denial and Selinger's equally compelling assertion against the priest. During the late summer of 2001, accusations were brought to Bishop Dougherty that Father Urrutigoity had made it a practice to sleep with boys and young men. There was no assertion of sexual activity between those involved in this sleeping arrangement. This priest's behavior was again brought before the Clergy Review Board on November 7, 2001. For a second time, no specific action against Father Urrutigoity was proposed. On January 12, 2002, Bishop Timlin received a letter from the Apostolic Nuncio in which was enclosed a letter from the father of an alleged victim of Father Eric Ensey and Father Urrutigoity. Both priests were relieved of their duties with the Society of St. John. The Clergy Review Board met on January 22, 2002 to consider the allegations. It was recommended that Father Urrutigoity be sent for an evaluation. On February 15, 2002, the Chancellor turned over the victim's allegations to the chief detective for Lackawanna County. Father Urrutigoity was evaluated at The Southdown Institute in Canada from March 11-14, 2002. Currently, he is residing at a private residence in Pike County with Father Ensey.

**Committee Recommendation to the Bishop and Clergy Review Board:** In view of the credible allegation from the seminarian, his admitted practice of sleeping with boys and young men, and the troubling evaluation by The Southdown Institute, Father Carlos Urrutigoity should be removed from active ministry; his faculties should be revoked; he should be asked to live privately.