

SUMMARY OF A MEETING WITH REV. FATHER J. FARRELL - 9/10/91 IN
CHANCERY OFFICE, ARMIDALE.

1. Father John was initially quite belligerent and demanded to know why I had refused him permission to celebrate a public Mass and denied that he had any idea why he was being kept out of the Diocese.
2. He denied that Bishop Kennedy had ever acquainted him with any accusation of wrong-doing or even spoken to him about it.
3. I detailed for him the following reasons:
 - a. There was the matter of incidents with boys in Moree.
 - b. The matter of the court case in Narrabri.
 - c. The silencing of witnesses in Moree by Rev. Monsignor Ryan.
 - d. The scandal emanating from both of those areas.
 - e. Widespread knowledge of both matters.
 - f. Potential damage to the Diocese and the priesthood.
 - g. The demand for distancing of John by parents of children involved.
 - h. The threat of physical violence to John by parents and others.
 - i. Widespread knowledge of the accusations.
 - j. The danger to children if a cure had not been effected.
4. I put to Father John the need to protect myself and the Diocese from future claims by indicating I had done something to offset the danger of future adverse actions on his part.
5. I advised him I required a further testimony from a psychiatrist to the effect that he was unlikely to offend again before I could ask another Bishop to take him on in

his Diocese.

6. Initially he was prepared to accept this but later in the conversation asked that such an action be postponed for twelve months as it was unsettling for him. On my insistence that it be immediate he agreed.
7. I was left with the feeling that he surrendered very easily to my requests and during the course of the conversation he continually changed the topics as though the whole issue was of little consequence.

Bishop Kevin Manning