

DISTRICT COURT OF NSW
FILED
AT SYDNEY
ON

28 JAN 2005

IN THE DISTRICT COURT
OF NEW SOUTH WALES
AT SYDNEY

File No. 4179 of 2004

AFFIDAVIT

Deponent: CPE
Sown: 28 January 2005

Filed for the plaintiff
CPK

CPK

Plaintiff

JOHN JOSEPH FARRELL
First Defendant

**TRUSTEE OF THE ROMAN
CATHOLIC CHURCH FOR THE
DIOCESE OF ARMIDALE**
Second Defendant

**TRUSTEE FOR THE ROMAN
CATHOLIC CHURCH FOR THE
DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA**
Third Defendant

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On the 28th day of January 2005, I
CPE of REDACTED

REDACTED Moree, in the state of New South
Wales, make oath and say as follows:

1. I first met John Farrell when he came to Moree as a deacon of the local parish. I worked at the local catholic school and therefore came into contact with him as soon as he arrived. It is possible I met him before that in Armidale, but if so I cannot remember.
2. I was keen for my son CPD to become an altar boy for the church. Father Farrell had attached notices around the school noticeboards, seeking altar boys to be trained. One of the responsibilities of Father Farrell was to train the altar boys. I enrolled CPD to be an altar boy and he commenced training in the afternoons.
3. It was not long before my family's association with John Farrell increased, exclusively at his behest. He used to turn up very frequently unannounced, at least once or twice a week and often at

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meal times.

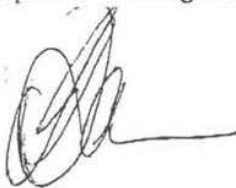
4. In relation to time periods, I recall that it was the end of 1985 or the start of 1986 when he used to attend most frequently. At this time I did not suspect anything untoward of occurring.
5. It was some time between March and June of 1986 I attend a Parents and Friends meeting at our school. The meeting had finished and we were all having a cup of tea as usual. I spoke with ^{CPQ}, a parent of another child at the school, and enquired of her "how come your son stopped serving as an altar boy?" Her response was words to the effect of "surely you know what is going on with Father Farrell" I said "what do you mean?" She said words to the effect of "Father Farrell was interfering with the boys". I do not really have the words to describe how I felt at that point. Suffice to say I was in a state of shock and disbelief. X
6. I immediately went home to speak to my son, however he was asleep at that time. I therefore decided to wait until the next morning.
7. In the morning after ^{CPD} returned from swimming training I sat him down and said to him directly "has Father Farrell ever touched you?" ^{CPD} immediately burst into a torrent of tears and said to us "yes, but I cannot get him into trouble". X
8. I immediately went straight to the Catholic Centre in town. I still recall the time being five minutes to nine. I went straight in as I was very familiar with the premises and people there because of the voluntary financial work that I did for the church.
9. I went straight in to the kitchen and saw Monsignor Ryan sitting at the table. Without saying anything else I said to him "meet me at my place at 9.30". I immediately turned around and left.
10. I returned home and Monsignor Ryan attended at my house at 9.30, my husband was also in attendance. I said to Monsignor Ryan "do you know that John Farrell is interfering with the boys", he reacted with surprise. He said to me words to the affect (S)



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of "I thought I was coming here because you and [REDACT] (my husband) were having marital problems". I said back to him "no, I called you here because he is interfering with the boys". He responded "you know I will need to go and ask him (referring to John Farrell) about it". I said "ok" and he left.

11. By noon that day I became aware that John Farrell had packed and left Moree.
12. I talked to Monsignor Ryan the next day "what happened to Father Farrell?" I enquired. He responded "you do not need to worry anymore".
13. Within the next two weeks I had a telephone call from Father Brown of Tweed Heads, who said he was helping Father Farrell with his problem. He said "I just wanted to say that you are very good person and thank you for giving John a second chance".
14. Perhaps another month later I received a telephone call from John Farrell. He asked to come around to apologise to myself [REDACT] and CPD . At the time I thought this was the right thing to do, so I agreed.
15. He came around to the house at a time that had been arranged. My husband was in the backyard as he did not wish to see him. Farrell came into the kitchen and asked "can you leave CPD and I alone?" I replied "no way". He said "CPD I am sorry mate, I should never done those things to you." CPD said nothing, he was just in tears. Farrell turned to me and said "I am sorry I betrayed your trust". He then left. He was there for a period of between five and ten minutes.
16. I saw him a couple of times afterwards. This would be at church events. I cannot recall speaking to him at any of these times. Finally I saw him at a swimming carnival the next year or year after. He approached us, sat behind us and started chatting to us as if nothing had ever happened. I just turned around and said "go away".
17. Subsequently I spoke to the nuns about how I should go about dealing with this issue. I specifically recall Sister Regina saying to me that I had to weigh up whether I wanted to put CPD through all of this again. I was then convinced to leave off any further



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action as way of protecting ^{CPD} . I thought that Farrell was receiving treatment and would not be any further danger to anyone.

18. Sometime later I became aware that Bernie Flood, whom I have known for twenty five years, had said that he had offered himself and his services to all families involved and that he was told the **REDACTED** did not want to talk about it. I can say that no one from the church ever approached me to follow up about the issue of John Farrell.

SWORN AT)
SYDNEY)
BEFORE ME)

CPE

on 28 January, 2005


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Jonathon Davis, solicitor