



Professional Standards Risk Management Service

Level 6, 324 St Kilda Road, Melbourne, 3004
Telephone (03) 9934 3192 Facsimile (03) 9934 3463
GPO Box 180B, Melbourne, Vic. 3001

Tel: 03 9755 2192
Fax: 03 9755 2965
E mail: lrolls@ccinsurances.com.au

FACSIMILE

TO: CCI **FAX:** 9934 3463
FOR: Lisa Clarke
FROM: Laurie Rolls
DATE: 26th April 2000
SUBJECT: Archdiocese of Brisbane – Derriman ats Joan Isaacs

Dear Lisa,

You will find there is a file on this matter under the listing of "Incidents".

For some time I have been drafting letters for despatch by the Archdiocese to the QBE, whose liability policy was in force at the time the relevant events took place. I am now advised by Paul Reynolds that we have a reply from that company regarding our reinsurance claims relating to "special issues" matters which indicates the stand the QBE intend to take on these cases.

On the assumption the Archdiocese will now find itself without insurance which otherwise responds, the declaration made regarding Derriman under the "Special Issues" cover will become effective.

When first asked to address the QBE on the matter in April 1999, I obtained information from Paul which led to my making the attached Note 1. In June 1999, I spoke with Bishop Gerry and Dr Spence in order to explore the question of prior knowledge. My Note 2 attached refers.

It would appear that the boy friend (later husband) of Joan Isaacs and the brother of one of the other young girls affected by Derriman's activities (DA [redacted]), spoke of their concerns to Archbishop O'Donnell. He recorded a complaint of "over friendly behaviour", not suspecting anything worse than that and transferred Derriman to Ennogergera Parish where he would be under the supervision of a senior priest Father Cyril Shand.

The Archdiocese became aware of the seriousness of the man's behaviour on 6th April 1994 and reported the matter under the "Special Issues" Cover in May that year.

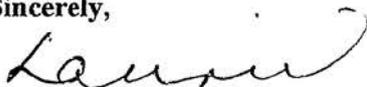
This was among a number of cases discussed at a conference at Brisbane some months ago, attended by Paul Reynolds and myself. The Archdiocese was represented by the Very Rev Dr James Spence and John Moore of Thynne and Macartney.

Bishop John Gerry is now discussing with me the question of continuing counselling services being provided by the Archdiocese. Attached is copy of his correspondence on this aspect of the matter.

I have agreed to contact John Moore to determine the status of the claim formulated by Joan Isaacs. You should have copy of the letter of 8th November 1999 in which our client's position is put to the claimant's solicitor.

I shall return to you after speaking with John Moore and meanwhile look forward to learning your instructions in the matter.

Sincerely,



Laurie

PS Lisa,

Since dictating the above I have received a call from John Moore. He is of the view an application should be made to have the matter struck out on grounds of the time limitation. Derriman's solicitor is of the same view.

John would not wish to proceed without your agreement. Perhaps you might telephone him.

John suggests I have Bishop Gerry seek from the Counsellor some indication of the extent to which the Derriman events contribute to the condition in which Joan presents. I am not so sure this is wise. There could arise the presumption the Archdiocese wishes to make the distinction because it accepts some responsibility for the Derriman aspect but not for other factors such as family background and adverse life experience. What do you think? I shall await your call before speaking with Bishop John.

LMR



*Section
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not on
claim file*