COPY

## THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

CHESHIRE, SS

SUPERIOR COURT

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

v.

#93-S-0218, et al.

GORDON J. MACRAE

## TRIAL BY JURY

## Volume I

## Pages 1 through 67

BEFORE:

The Hon. Arthur D. Brennan

Presiding Justice

Cheshire County Superior Court

Box 444

Keene, New Hampshire 03431

DATE:

Monday, September 12, 1994

**APPEARANCES:** 

For the State:

Bruce E. Reynolds, Asst. Cty. Atty.

Robert Gainor, Asst. Cty. Atty.

(Rockingham)

For the Defendant:

Ron Koch, Esquire (New Mexico)

James R. Davis, Esquire

**CLERK:** 

Stillman D. Rogers, Esquire

STENOGRAPHER:

Lorena Werner Patria, CSR

Certificate #41

(PHOTOCOPYING OF TRANSCRIPTS IS PROHIBITED)

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1 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S 2 CHAMBERS CONFERENCE THE COURT: Does the defendant want to be here? 3 MR. KOCH: There were several matters that we wanted to be brought to the attention of the Court and I don't know how 5 we want to do that. 6 MR. REYNOLDS: The first matter I have got involves Ms. Nevins. 7 THE COURT: What about it? MR. REYNOLDS: Well she spoke to the newspaper and in doing so 9 10 may have violated the rules of professional conduct. 11 basically got in the newspaper and talked about her client 12 being innocent, that she is going to sit there at counsel 13 table and knows him from wherever. Now I think that would be a violation of the Rules of Professional Conduct in New 14 15 Hampshire. I am licensed in Massachusetts. We have 16 similar rules down there. I am a little concerned that we 17 have someone, part of the defense team, sitting there talking about the defendant's innocence before the press. 18 19 THE COURT: Where was this? 20 MR. REYNOLDS: It was in the Sentinel I believe on Friday as the 21 newspaper came out. 22 MR. KOCH: This was Saturday's paper?

23

MR. REYNOLDS: Friday's.

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MR. KOCH:
                   I was at the Chesterfield Inn, your Honor.
 1
          innocent.
     THE COURT:
 3
                   Is she a new attorney? Fairly new?
 4
     MR. KOCH:
                   Brand new.
 5
     MR. REYNOLDS: I'm not looking for sanctions but she should not
 6
          be part of this contest.
     THE COURT:
                   There could be a violation all right.
 7
 8
     MR. REYNOLDS: My concern is about the appearance of the fairness
 9
                             The State has made no allegations at all
          in the courtroom.
10
          in the press talking about the defendant being guilty. We
11
          simply have indictments. That's it. We have made no such
12
                     We have on the other hand somebody who's aligned
13
          with the defendant's team who has come out in no uncertain
14
          terms and indicated the innocence of the defendant which is
15
          inappropriate and indicated, "I'm going to be there and I
          am going to be participating." I think it's inappropriate
16
17
          that she be involved.
18
     THE COURT:
                   That's too bad. JR, are you going to be here for
19
          the day? I'd rather not rule on it. I'd rather think
20 🔗
          about it.
                 Would it be possible to get a copy of the
21 /
    MR. KOCH:
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(Article handed to Mr. Koch)

22

23

article?

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1
     MR. KOCH:
                    Your Honor, I apologize.
                                               I had no idea that
 2
           anything like that was being done. I know that Ms. Nevins
          was upset that she was not introduced and that Mr. Reynolds
          did not want her as part of the team but I had no idea that
 4
 5
          she was out making extra judicial comments to the press.
          Now all of us have judiciously avoided talking to the press
 6
          and I've had hundreds of calls and I have not returned a
                 I tried to keep those issues out.
 8
 9
     THE COURT:
                    Well, can you do it, JR, for the day?
10
     MR. DAVIS:
                    Yes, your Honor.
11
     THE COURT:
                    Let's do that. Let's get the moment behind us and
12
          I'll think about it tonight and we'll decide what we're
13
          going to do.
                        I think she has made a mistake here.
                                                               On the
14
          other hand, the jury shouldn't be tainted by this.
                                                                They
15
          are the ones who have to make the decision.
     MR. DAVIS:
16
                   We all know they haven't read the newspaper anyway
17
          because of your order.
18
     THE COURT:
                   Darn right.
19
     MR. KOCH:
                   Do I notice smirks?
     MR. REYNOLDS: No, but somebody even uninvolved in conversation
20
21
          and a jury could overhear someone else talk being it.
22
                   I understand that, but I know that she's been
     THE COURT:
23
```

working with you and she is going to be a help to the

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1
          defendant as well.
 2
     MR. REYNOLDS: I don't have a problem with her being involved
          behind the scenes, but if she is out in the courtroom I
 3
          have some real concerns.
 5
     MR. DAVIS:
                   Just in the courtroom or if she is sitting at the
 6
                  What about if she is in the general population?
     MR. REYNOLDS: I don't have a problem with her in the general
 7
          population.
 9
     THE COURT:
                   Is she aware at all of this situation?
10
     MR. KOCH:
                   No, your Honor.
                                     I had no idea what the State
11
          wanted to bring to the attention of the Court.
1.2
     THE COURT:
                   Well it sounds like something that could happen to
13
          anybody, including me. How long has she been in the bar?
14
     MR. KOCH:
                   I think just a few months.
15
     THE COURT:
                   That's too bad.
     MR. REYNOLDS: These days you have to take a test on Rules of
16
17
          Professional Conduct before admitted to the bar.
18
                   That's right. Well what else do we have?
     THE COURT:
19
          managed to negotiate that one for now.
20
     MR. GAINOR:
                  Judge, there was the motion to exclude evidence
21
          filed by the defense and the State's various responses.
22
          For the opening statement, the Court basically responded
23
          there is no violation of the wire tap statute.
```

State set the foundation. Number two is the character or not character evidence which still leaves the State in the predicament of not knowing what we can bring up in our opening and out of concern for avoiding a mistrial, I would like some guidance from the Court as to what I can and cannot mention in my opening regarding the admissions made by the defendant.

MR. KOCH: Your Honor, if I could give the Court some background, that was another issue I was going to ask the Court about and maybe I can just kind of dovetail all of these. One is that there is some evidence and probably the State would introduce testimony that would indicate that one of the reasons Tom Grover came forward was because he had learned that his brothers, Jon and David had gone to the grand jury to get an indictment against Mr. MacRae and he made some kind of comment to the effect well once that happened I knew he could be convicted. Now to me that's jumping right into the heart of the 404-B issue.

The second place that it comes up is back in 1988 after Gordon had pled guilty to the misdemeanor involving Jon Plankey. It was for endangering a child and maybe soliciting them for sex. The exact circumstances about

that conviction are a little unclear but what happens is that sometime later after Gordon is placed on probation he is out in New Mexico at a treatment center.

Evidence is brought to the attention of the probation department and the county attorney's office that Gordon had had some contact with another juvenile, another 404-B witness, named Tony Bonacci, that he had written some letters to Mr. Bonacci, and that he had visited him at a center that he was in. It was alleged that that contact was a violation of the probation order. Mr. MacRae was brought back to New Mexico -- I mean to New Hampshire, excuse me -- and I think he received a couple days in jail was the way that was finally settled and then he was in the treatment center out at the Paracletes. What happens is that at the time of the probation violation there was some considerable discussion between Detective McLaughlin and Gordon MacRae about all kinds of issues. McLaughlin was basically challenging Gordon about whether he was really coming to grips with the problem that he had and so those reports, your Honor, are just filled with all kinds of 404-B materials and I am not sure that the Court has had an opportunity to fully review those. In other words, the whole substance of the statement.

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THE COURT: I've read every single document. Whether I remember it is another question.

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MR. KOCH: That's going to be a nightmare for this jury because we're still getting a grip on everything. one area. There is another area that came up where -- well Gordon -- basically Detective McLaughlin accuses him of being a pedophile. And Gordon allegedly says well, "I prefer not to think of myself in those terms. I prefer to think of myself in terms of what they call a hebephile because a hebephile is someone attracted to adolescents and not to what we would call children." But all of those issues and there are statements allegedly made by Gordon to Detective McLaughlin for what we don't have tape But McLaughlin is relying on his memory. confusion comes in where we draw the line as to what we can use as admissions, of course, what I objected to and how much they can go into 404-B. My intent in this trial is not to try all five or six cases. My intent is to try not to open the door to that kind of evidence because I don't want to be here for a month.

THE COURT: Well the way I see it, my rulings on the 404-B question keep out the evidence that you've just discussed.

That is McLaughlin's talk about whether he is a pedophile

1 or hebephile. That's out. It doesn't come in. all know, the whole ballgame here is credibility. And as 2 you well know, if the door opens, the whole world may come 3 in. 5

MR. KOCH: I understand that.

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Now the moment the defendant takes the stand his THE COURT: credibility is an issue. I think the -- just to let you know at this point, for instance I think the violation of probation will come in and the whole thing will come in. The whole story on the violation will come in. Whether anything else will, will depend on the terrain and the situation and that we can't know until the defendant takes the stand and if he takes the stand. Of course you know the tremendous risk.

MR. KOCH: I know the risk if he does and if he doesn't because I listened to some of those jurors on questioning.

THE COURT: But the State's opening -- the State's case is going -- is extremely limited by my rulings on 404-B. that whole situation certainly can change on the other end of this trial.

MR. KOCH: The Court isn't ruling right now that if Gordon takes the stand that automatically we've opened Pandora's box?

THE COURT: Now, what I am saying just to put everybody on notice that if he takes the stand, then his credibility is at issue. As far as I'm concerned, credibility at this point from what I know is going to make or break this case for both sides.

MR. KOCH: Certainly.

THE COURT: So when we get to the analysis, the test as to whether or not I'm going to allow in evidence on the prejudice side, the probative side is going to be very high for the State and I'm going to be tending to consider evidence that I might not under other circumstances if credibility weren't such a great issue in this case. I want you to know that now. But as far as a point by point description of what I'm going to let it in, there is so much evidence that I have read that I can't remember -- I have some idea -- as you work through it you have an idea of what you might do or think of. We'll take that issue by issue.

MR. KOCH: I know Attorney Reynolds and Gainor are very accomplished and experienced and I don't want to get in a situation where we have a mistrial.

MR. GAINOR: That feeling is mutual.

MR. KOCH: The other issue I want clarification on is that

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THE COURT:

Well if he has a felony conviction, it's less --

Mr. Grover when we interviewed him refused to answer questions regarding his prior convictions. Now we have reason to believe that he does have a felony conviction. We also have reason to believe that he has some juvenile convictions involving dishonesty, forgery, theft.

THE COURT: Well, I don't know how old the convictions are.

MR. KOCH: Well they are less than ten years but some of the convictions for the forgery and theft are juvenile. believe -- let's see, he would have been 18 in -- in 1985 November of 1985 I believe he would have turned 18 and the way it came up in terms of the interview, your Honor, was that Mr. Davis had asked some questions of Mr. Grover and Mr. Reynolds with good due caution basically suggested to him maybe you need to speak with your private counsel. He has brought a lawsuit through Robert Upton and so Tom Grover is not Attorney Reynolds' client but he has sort of cautioned him that maybe you want to speak with your own attorney about asking them. There was a whole series, sir, of questions that he would not answer that until he had the possibility to speak with his attorney so I was kind of requesting some guidance from the Court in terms of how to address those particular issues.

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well it's obviously only going to be a few years old.
 1
          don't know. Does the State know?
 2
     MR. REYNOLDS: If it's an adult conviction but otherwise there is
 3
          a blanket provision against using juvenile convictions
 5
          because they are not crimes.
                   Well I don't know -- what was the felony
     THE COURT:
 6
 7
          conviction?
     MR. REYNOLDS: I am not aware of any felony convictions.
     THE COURT:
                   Well whatever it is, it should come in if it's
10
          there.
     MR. KOCH:
                   Well I have received copies of I guess what you
11
12
          would call --
13
     MR. DAVIS:
                   -- summons, complaints in the district court.
14
          have one district court record from the Manchester District
15
          Court that indicates the matter was remanded to the
16
          superior court because an indictment was issued. When we
17
          previously contacted --
18
     MR. KOCH:
                   Attempted burglary, aiding and abetting.
19
     MR. DAVIS:
                   When we contacted the superior court they said
20
          there was no record. I assume it's a typical beaurocratic
21
22
     THE COURT:
                   You think it's a burglary.
                   I will have to look. We gave Bruce copies of the
23
    MR. DAVIS:
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1 district court. I think it was the burglary that got sent up to the superior court and of course one of the problems 2 without him not answering -- the other thing he wouldn't 3 answer was was he currently charged or under investigation of any offenses. He being Mr. Grover, excuse me. 6 THE COURT: Well you can certainly ask the questions and he is 7 going to have to answer them. 8 I am wondering if maybe there is a way --MR. REYNOLDS: I guess there's a problem with the charge. 10 has a Fifth Amendment because he is merely charged rather than convicted, the charges don't come in, only 11 12 convictions. 13 MR. DAVIS: The problem is we can't find out because we have a record from one court that says it went to the other court and the other court told us there's no such records. 15 don't have the ability to do a records check as easily as 16 17 the State does. 18 MR. REYNOLDS: The only thing I can do is call the superior 19 court and ask if there was any follow through and if the 20 superior court records show nothing, I'd assume it got 21 dropped somewhere between district and superior court. 22 It's gone.

Then my question would be if that has happened and

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MR. KOCH:

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it happens to be coincidental with the time these cases

arose, was there any agreement or understanding to drop

charges against Mr. Grover because of his testimony in the

MacRae case?
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- MR. REYNOLDS: No. The only conversation, information, that we have had concerning any possible charges concerning Tom Grover arose in that questioning that JR Davis made in documents he supplied to me. That's it.
- 9 MR. KOCH: Okay. I will accept that.
- 10 | THE CLERK: The other possibility if it came to the superior
- 11 court. How old is this?
- 12 MR. REYNOLDS: I think a 1990 case.
- 13 THE CLERK: It could be the case of an annulment because the

  14 superior court if they called on a case that has been

  15 annulled, would say there was no case.
- 16 THE COURT: It wouldn't happen.
- MR. KOCH: My sense was he has an adult felony conviction because he refused to answer the question. If he didn't
- 19 have one ---

6

7

- 20 | THE COURT: Is it possible he just doesn't know?
- 21 MR. KOCH: It could be.
- 22 MR. REYNOLDS: Could be.
- 23 THE COURT: Well I think the State -- give them a try

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yourself, give the Court a try and see if it makes -- it
 1
          shouldn't make any difference, but one day you might get
 2
 3
          the thing.
 4
     MR. REYNOLDS: Who did you talk to?
 5
     MR. DAVIS:
                   We sent a letter to the Court in the normal
 6
          course.
 7
     THE COURT:
                   Now these are juvenile convictions that is the
          forgery and the theft?
 8
 9
     MR. KOCH:
                   Yes.
10
     THE COURT:
                   Okay.
                          The juvenile convictions can't come in.
          Obviously if we have the felony conviction, that's the end
11
          -- we should find out if there is one.
12
13
     MR. KOCH:
                   I would like to be able to argue about their
14
          admissibility at the appropriate time because I may be able
          to place it in context as to why even those juvenile --
15
16
     THE COURT:
                   I'm ready to hear arguments.
     MR. REYNOLDS: I don't know how he can place in context a blanket
17
18
          prohibition.
19
     THE COURT:
                   Well there's always room when justice is involved
20
          as far as I'm concerned.
21
     MR. KOCH:
                   I think Rule 609 of the New Hampshire Rules of
22
          Evidence make it pretty clear under what circumstances
23
          adult felony convictions come in. They have a prohibition
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ten years old although sometimes you can go beyond that, any conviction relating to credibility issues, honesty. I think there are provisions under the rule even where juvenile adjudications come in regardless of what you call them, whether they are expunged or deferred or anything else and I would think that once we begin to develop evidence I would certainly like to be able to argue but I will not mention it in opening.

THE COURT: You will be able to argue it. I expect the State to be prepared to argue their side. My inclination is to go with what the State is saying but on the other hand I'm ready to always go back and look at the statute.

MR. REYNOLDS: Just so the Court knows, with regard to one of those juvenile contacts, the State is in possession of a redacted copy of a letter. We have the whole letter, a certified copy but basically it's a letter from Gordon MacRae. It's been provided in discovery to the defendant's counsel. It's a letter from Gordon MacRae on St. Bernard's parish stationary to the district court that indicates that he has known Thomas Grover through family and counseling contacts for seven years. The date of the letter is 1985. Between that first introductory statement and Gordon MacRae's signature I have prepared a copy where everything

į

else is omitted so we don't know the purpose of the 1 2 letter. We only know it's a letter to district court over MacRae's signature, indicating he has had a counseling and 3 family relationship for seven years. My position is that we could argue on that in opening argument and that in and 5 6 of itself merely the letter to the district court would not open the door with regard to whatever the underlying juvenile issue was. Because it's not being offered to have Я anything do do with the juvenile issue bits being offered 10 as an admission by MacRae that he engaged in counseling and that's one of the elements we have to prove is that there 11 12 is a counseling relationship.

MR. KOCH: My concern is I am not sure one can introduce part of the contents of the writing without allowing for it to be placed in context and the entire writing to be introduced.

THE COURT: It can be if the defense requests that it be done.

MR. KOCH: I don't know when that will come up but I think it's to prove obviously that Gordon MacRae counseled Tom Grover which is elements of one of the indictments or some of the indictments in the case.

MR. GAINOR: This is the letter.

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MR. REYNOLDS: It's simply the stationary, the first sentence and the signature that the State would be seeking to introduce.

THE COURT: Well I think I would allow the reference, not reference to the letter at this point, in your opening statement. I mean you can say that they had the relationship and that sort of thing. You have a redacted copy?

MR. REYNOLDS: Yes, it eliminates all but the first sentence and I mean we have the heading and to whom it's addressed, the first sentence and then Mr. MacRae's signature. Everything else between those is blocked out or omitted.

THE COURT: Have you seen it?

MR. KOCH: I have not seen the redacted version.

MR. REYNOLDS: Take out everything except the first sentence in the body of the letter itself.

THE COURT: It's an admission.

MR. REYNOLDS: The State would argue when the time comes that they may choose to get into his alcohol or drug counseling as well and the letter does talk about those issues but there is no reason to talk about the underlying criminal aspect. I mean if counseling is the issue and the drug problem is the issue and they find some way to open the

door, that doesn't necessarily mean you have to get into
the juvenile justice system area so in terms of the context
of the admission, I think it's more counseling oriented
than it is juvenile justice oriented.

THE COURT: I would agree.

MR. KOCH: I'm a little unclear. I mean it does not address specifically a juvenile problem. It mentions the court and does call him a juvenile but doesn't put it in any kind of context as though he has been charged with something or he is facing sentencing.

THE COURT: Well the way I look at it, it doesn't -- maybe I am wrong on this. Hasn't Mr. MacRae denied he did any kind of counseling on Grover?

MR. REYNOLDS: Yes, under oath.

THE COURT: And he minimized his contact if I remember correctly. I would think that this admission certainly contradicts that.

MR. GAINOR: And even in the case in chief in fact it is an element that we have to prove, that there was a counseling context and this written in '85 reaches back seven years which covers the indictment time period.

22 | THE COURT: It's going to come in.

23 MR. GAINOR: Thank you, your Honor.

1 | THE COURT: And you may use it.

2 MR. REYNOLDS: Thank you.

MR. DAVIS: I think the issue becomes partly, your Honor, I don't think the State should at this point be forced to agree that it will be in a redacted version. We should be able to argue that.

THE COURT: Yes.

MR. DAVIS: We believe the context is genuinely important.

THE COURT: You're right. As far as I'm concerned, any time
we run into a situation like that, we get a document that
you're thinking about redacting, of course, the defense has
the right to put it in context.

MR. GAINOR: Well that brings up one more issue I wanted to address. You may have touched possibly on it earlier but there were letters between Jon Grover and the defendant and I brought this up in pleadings where the defendant in his last correspondence to whom he thought was Jon Grover says, "I now know you're not Jon Grover. I believe you're someone else for whom I've been waiting to hear from and if you are, write back." It was Jon Grover doing the correspondence. Actually Detective McLaughlin through the appearance of Jon Grover was doing that.

MR. REYNOLDS: The defendant also indicated, "There is only one

person I have to make amends to. If you're that person --"
THE COURT: I remember that.

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MR. GAINOR: And then Mr. MacRae provided to the State work product. It was a paragraph by paragraph response to the State's voluminous discovery and in that he states flat out, "I believed several months after the Jon Grover defendant correspondence that I was actually speaking with Tom Grover." There's a lot of admissions in those letters. Albeit non-specific, but he says, "I am sorry if I created any confusion. I am sorry for the things I did. I was not the same individual I am today, I am better." And I believe the State can set the foundation. Now obviously this will require some redacting and we are willing to do that but we should at least be able to make the effort because that is frankly as you say the case of credibility, that is our only other evidence.

THE COURT: That will come in. I mean I will give you your argument but based on your argument now it will come in.

MR. KOCH: What that is, your Honor, is that Detective McLaughlin, what he has done throughout, he sort of has bordered on what I consider the edge of things. He sits down and he writes some letters pretending he is Jon

Grover, one of the 404-B witnesses to MacRae.

1 THE COURT: So Grover never wrote these letters? 2 MR. KOCH: Grover never wrote them. Gordon responded. then he sends more letters and some of the letters he 3 finally gets to the point where he is accusing Gordon of 5 saying about the sexual abuse and of course Gordon writes back and basically denies all that. But what happens a few months later is he gets this call from Tom Grover from Robert Upton's office. There were a couple from Robert 9 Upton's office, no connection made and then finally from 10 Detective McLaughlin. Well Gordon all this time thought 11 the person writing him, because Tom Grover calls him, was 12 Tom Grover, pretending to be somebody else and I mean 13 that's an issue I would ask the Court to really reserve 14 ruling on so I can place it in proper context. 15 THE COURT: I will reserve. You have my inclination but I 16 will reserve. Do you have pre-view statements? 17 all set on your pre-view statements. 18 MR. GAINOR: Yes, your Honor. 19 THE COURT: Do you know what the pre-view statement is that 20 you give prior to going out on the view? MR. KOCH: 21 No, your Honor. Oh, you mean for the view of the 22 rectory?

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THE COURT:

Yes.

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MR. KOCH:
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                          I'm just asking. I thought you meant
                    Yes.
          pre-view, sort of like a mini opening before the opening.
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     THE COURT:
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                    Okay.
     THE CLERK:
                    So the procedure will be the pre-views and then go
          down and do the views and then come back and do the
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          openings.
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     THE COURT:
                    The press will not be going into the building.
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     MR. DAVIS:
                    Your Honor will be doing the mini charge before we
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          do the pre-view statements?
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     THE COURT:
                          I just give basically what I give is that
                   Yes.
          reasonable doubt instruction for the jury to think about.
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     MR. KOCH:
                   Before we start, can I get a copy of that
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          article?
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     THE COURT:
                   In fact, do we have another?
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     MR. REYNOLDS: I don't.
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     THE CLERK:
                   I will take it down and copy it.
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     MR. DAVIS:
                   In addition I assume your Honor will be explaining
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          to the jurors that when we take the view that the attorneys
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          will not be able to --
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     THE COURT:
                   I have something that I usually give.
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     MR. REYNOLDS: Not be able to what?
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     MR. DAVIS:
                   Answer questions unless it's approved by the Court
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and they should just observe the things pointed out to them

and keep a mental picture in their mind.

THE COURT: It covers all that.

MR. GAINOR: One more issue, your Honor. I begged and pleaded to be here and fortunately I was granted permission but under a limited duration. Carleton Eldridge gave me a week to be here. This could conceivably be a one week trial if the doors are not opened, or a three week trial. I will leave this to the Court's discretion. I would hate to leave a jury with the impression that the case is not important to the State if I have to leave Friday and not come back. Maybe there could be some statement to the jury that one of the assistants may have to leave the trial early, something to that -- I am not sure if that would highlight it more.

THE COURT: Well, maybe what we could do is kind of do that and that way cover your situation too with JR and Ms.

Nevins.

MR. DAVIS: Perhaps, your Honor.

THE COURT: Something like just saying lead counsel in the case are Attorney Reynolds and Attorney Koch and the assistants to both of those counsel may be here sometimes and may not be here at other times depending on what's going on.

1	MR. KOCH: I just want to know, your Honor		
2	THE COURT: Is that acceptable?		
3	MR. GAINOR: That would be fine.		
4	MR. KOCH: If Mr. Albrecht is not successful in the election,		
5	will Mr. Reynolds be back Wednesday morning?		
6	THE COURT: He will be taking the New Mexico bar!		
7	MR. REYNOLDS: Mr. Reynolds believes himself to be a		
8	professional.		
9	THE COURT: Well, I do too.		
10	MR. REYNOLDS: Thank you.		
11	THE COURT: For me I'm a new judge and everything you have		
12	said has worked out and I appreciate it. I enjoy working		
13	with people like all of you.		
14	MR. DAVIS: Could we go off the record.		
15	THE COURT: Sure.		
16	(Discussion off the record)		
17	(Break)		
18	(Pre-View Statements and View recorded, not transcribed)		
19	(Luncheon Recess)		
20	HEARING OUT OF THE PRESENCE OF THE JURY		
21	THE COURT: Okay. We have the issue of a possible witness and		
22	some documents that we talked about and decided we would		
23	here it at this time. Attorney Koch?		

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MR. KOCH: Thank you, your Honor. Your Honor, Mr. Grover recently had gone to see a counselor by the name of Pauline It's our understanding that he went to Ms. Goupil and then subsequently to a Dr. Yaditi as a result of a civil suit that he brought against Gordon MacRae claiming monetary damages for the alleged actions from 1983 to 1987, i.e., the sexual abuse. We only learned about the existence of Ms. Goupil and Dr. Yaditi at a deposition of Tom Grover last Friday. And I mean the Friday preceeding the week we began jury selection. At that point in time we asked Mr. Grover if he would sign releases for us as he had been previously ordered by this Court to do with respect to some treatment facilities; however, we didn't know about these at the time we argued to the Court and on the advice of Mr. Reynolds, he decided he needed to speak with his lawyer, Robert Upton. Mr. Upton represents Mr. Grover in the civil suit that was brought by Mr. Grover against Mr. MacRae. Due to the circumstances, what we decided to do, your Honor, was go ahead and subpoena Ms. Goupil and she has appeared here in court today and I'm assuming that she brought records with her although we have not asked her any direct questions without permission of the Court to so do. My understanding, your Honor, and this is I quess double

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hearsay. I spoke to JR Davis who spoke to Attorney Upton. Attorney Upton said he did not need to be present to address this issue and would waive his presence, however, he wanted to register an objection based on the fact that I believe these entries are really post indictment and other than that would allow us to argue the issue. Now what I am asking the Court to do is two things. One, order Ms. Goupil to talk to us. Two, produce her file here in court for the Court to conduct an in camera inspection of those documents. I think this is a procedure that the Court has employed in the past with respect to the release of any To ascertain one, whether there may be any records. exculpatory information contained therein, two, I think there may be either consistent or inconsistent statements previously given by Mr. Grover in this case to various treatment centers as to what Ms. Goupil may have and therefore it may be important in terms of impeachment. Three, it may provide a basis for some corroboration or lack of corroboration and that's the -- I think this argument, your Honor, that well it's post indictment is really a red herring. He has made that a central issue in terms of this litigation in going to the issue of his credibility, his motivation, interest and bias which in

part is a financial one; and that he is then using the services of Ms. Goupil and Mr. Yaditi in an effort to bolster his claim for psychological injury and damages, and as the Court knows, part of the allegation here is that these events occurred while in counseling, that Mr. Grover was in a particularly vulnerable position because of his life circumstances and that Gordon MacRae, in his role as a priest, somehow took advantage of that and then abused Mr. Grover when he was a teen-ager. So these are the two requests that I have, your Honor. An in camera review of the documents to ascertain whether or not they should be produced to the defendant and then whether or not Ms. Goupil should be required to answer questions posed to her by the defense. I'm not asking the Court at this juncture to rule on whether or not that was ultimately admissible but whether or not we're entitled to receive it in the discovery process.

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THE COURT: Thank you, Attorney Koch. Attorney Reynolds?

MR. REYNOLDS: The State doesn't see what possible bearing post indictment counseling or communications with the psychologist could have on the issues before the Court. It makes little or no difference it seems to me that whatever the victim's motives were for engaging in a suit or to be

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able to respond to a suit is wholly separate from this matter and those were not things that developed until after criminal charges had been brought until after the victim had already, I believe several times, spoken to the authorities and gone on record concerning allegations. Ιf the Court is inclined to grant the defendant's motion, then I would ask the Court to review in camera any of those records before to determine whether or not they are potentially exculpatory and if they are not, to keep them out as well as perhaps even interview the psychologist  $\underline{\text{in}}$ camera to determine whether or not there is anything there sufficient that the defendant should be apprised of those materials but I don't see that subsequent counseling has anything to do with these matters since the disclosures upon which the defendant is being tried or those disclosures which well pre-dated the victim getting into counseling in this matter now.

THE COURT: Thank you. Well it concerns me that we come up with this witness so late in the game anyway. Course I realize that's because the defense's interview with the alleged victim was only I guess the Friday before last, however, that could have been done many, many months ago. I think in camera review is appropriate and I will also do

an in camera interview with Pauline Goupil and then render 1 a decision as to whether or not it's appropriate to grant 2 3 the defense's motion. Is there anything further? MR. REYNOLDS: Thank you, your Honor. 4 5 MR. KOCH: Your Honor, I might just state that we have received records from Dr. Yaditi which I have not reviewed 7 on agreement with Mr. Reynolds. It might be important for the Court to go ahead and review those in camera also. 8 Do I have those documents? 9 THE COURT: 10 MR. KOCH: I'm not sure that the Court does. 11 MR. DAVIS: Not that I know of. 12 THE COURT: I'd like them. In fact, I would like -- if I 13 could have the records now, I would like to begin reviewing them in camera and what I'm thinking is what might be well 14 in this case, we've got the jury coming back at 2, perhaps 15 you could make your opening statements, I could interview 16 Ms. Goupil and give my decision to counsel before the day 17 is out and we won't put any witnesses on the stand today. 18 19 MR. KOCH: That's fine, your Honor. 20 THE COURT: There may be a couple more issues that arise as we 21 progress here. I believe there will be, in fact. 22 If I might approach, I will just give the Court a MR. KOCH:

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copy of ---

1 MR. KOCH: As on officer of the Court, neither Mr. Reynolds nor myself knows what is contained in these documents by 3 agreement. 4 THE COURT: Is Ms. Goupil here? Do you have those Okay. 5 records with you? 6 MS. GOUPIL: They are in my car. What we'll do is recess. Could you then give them 7 THE COURT: Я to the court clerk at the counter and the clerk will give them to me and I will review them and then I'm ordering you 10 to meet with me in my chambers after opening statements and there I will talk with you and we'll discuss whether or not 11 12 this evidence is appropriate to come in to this case. 13 Thank you. Does counsel have something? 14 MR. REYNOLDS: Your Honor, depending on how late you can go, if 15 your review is only going to be very brief of these 16 materials and interview Ms. Goupil, I would like the Court 17 to know the State does offer to begin the direct 18 examination of Mr. Grover today. I would hate if there is at least some substantial time remaining not to be able to 19 use it unless of course your Honor assumes there are going 20 21 to be some other issues that will be precluded. 22 MR. KOCH: My concern if Mr. Grover is in fact the first

witness of the State is to have a bifurcated proceeding

1	where they cannot see I anticipate his examination may		
2	be rather lengthy both on the part of the State and defense		
3	and it's very awkward when you just hear one portion of the		
4	story and then are left to sit on it. If that is indeed		
5	their lead witness, then I would like to start him first		
6	thing in the morning, your Honor.		
7	THE COURT: Well, I'll tell you, I'm kind of slow. We'll get		
8	the arguments in, I'll interview the witness in this case.		
9	There are a couple other issues I know I am going to have		
10	to address today and I think the best thing to do would be		
11	able to start out tomorrow morning at 9:00. We'll just put		
12	the witness on the stand and go to work. Anything		
13	further?		
14	MR. REYNOLDS: May we approach for a moment?		
15	THE COURT: Sure.		
16	MR. DAVIS: Just so it's clear for the benefit of Ms. Goupil,		
17	the clerk's office is on the first floor to hand the		
18	documents in.		
19	THE COURT: Yes.		
20	(Discussion held off the record.)		
21	(Recess)		
22	OPEN COURT		
23	THE COURT: Attorney Reynolds?		

MR. GAINOR: Actually Attorney Gainor, your Honor.

2 THE COURT: Okay.

## OPENING STATEMENT OF MR. GAINOR

MR. GAINOR: Good afternoon. This case, the evidence will show, is about a breach of trust, about a breach of confidence of the worst kind. It's about this man, Gordon MacRae, a priest, using his position of authority, using his position of trust towards a then boy, Tom Grover.

Using that position to sexually exploit Tom Grover. You are going to hear that this sexual exploitation, this molestation of Tom Grover, occurred when this man was in essence a counselor to Tom. This case is two-fold. It's also about this man, Gordon MacRae, choosing a perfect victim, choosing Tom Grover because Tom Grover was an ideal victim.

The evidence will be that Tom came from a large family. He was adopted. They didn't have much financial ability and that Tom had a lot of problems and he spotted that, the evidence will show, and he used it for his own sexual gratification. Tom Grover is an American Indian. He was born in Arizona. He is now 26 years old. He was born in 1967. He came from a very large family in Arizona but his parents, his natural parents, had problems and Tom

was adopted. He was adopted at the age of one by a Patricia Grover and she and her husband -- then husband, Elmer Grover legally adopted Tom when he was one year old. They also adopted seven other children, all of mixed ethnic origins. Tom has a brother who's also an American Indian and Tom ranked fifth in age order. So in a large adopted family, eight children, Tom lived in Marlborough, New Hampshire.

You're going to hear that he was brought up in an extremely Catholic household. His mother, Pat Grover, extremely religious, very involved with the church and she brought up all of her children -- adopted children -- in an extremely religious environment. In fact Tom was an alter boy both in Marlborough and then in Keene when they moved to Keene. It was a family that obviously because of the number of children did not have things that easily. As I mentioned the evidence will show money was tight, treats were rare, but they made do.

Now in 1979, this man, Gordon MacRae, who was studying to be a priest in Baltimore, Maryland came to New Hampshire. And he did this as an internship. Priests, or rather candidates for the priesthood, studying to be priests, they do internships and his first was in 1979 in

Marlborough, where the Grovers lived, at the church where the Grovers practiced their religion. Almost immediately, this man, Gordon MacRae became good friends with Pat Grover and he would go over to the house on frequent occasions. They became very close friends. In fact, Pat Grover, who will testify in this case, will tell you that in many ways, she felt that she was almost in a motherly position to Gordon MacRae, the defendant. He had come over to the house and when he had come over he would bring treats, he would bring things for the kids, he would bring pizza and even at one time it culminated with him buying a large color TV for the family. Tom Grover was very impressed with all this. Now after 1979, that internship, the defendant went back to Maryland to take up with his studies. And from 1979 until 1983, he maintained contact with the Grover family. And he maintained contact with Tom And in fact I want to get back to something.

In 1979, Tom Grover had a paper route that took him by the seminary or -- strike that -- the rectory in Marlborough where the defendant was living for that summer and he delivered papers and one time he even went into the defendant's apartment at the rectory. They are donuts together. They spent time together. So moving forward

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between '79 and '83 they maintained contact. Pat Grover and the defendant and at one time even the defendant and Tom Grover drove to the defendant's family's house in Lynn, Massachusetts. Another time they went for a ride to the airport. They had periodic contact. Now in 1982, the defendant was ordained as a priest. His first assignment was in Hampton, New Hampshire. And that lasted for about a year and again during that time periodic contact with the Grover family -- he and Pat Grover wrote a lot and he gets transferred to Keene around June, 1983 he comes to Keene and he comes to St. Bernard's. And at that time he immediately gets very involved with the Grover family. I want to tell you a bit about what the evidence will be about Tom at this time in 1983. Tom at this time is having some problems. His family -- his father had recently moved His parents were separated. And again Tom had no father figure in his life and the one figure, male figure had moved out and Tom will tell you how he felt responsible actually for the break-up of his parents. He felt quilty about that and you're going to hear that Tom at this time had a substance abuse problem in the summer of 1983. family's breaking up, things aren't going well for Tom and he has a concerned mother, Pat Grover.

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Now, Pat, seeing that the defendant is back in Keene as a priest, the church that she belongs to -- they now live in Keene and they belong to this church --- St. Bernard's in Keene. She asked Gordon MacRae, the defendant, to help out Tom, to act as a counselor to try and help Tom work through his problems, to be a friend to Tom, to be that male figure that Tom no longer has. the defendant does that. He and Tom start spending time together again, June, thereabouts, 1983 and they start doing things together. The defendant takes Tom out for dinners and they start doing things together. At the rectory where we went earlier today, one of the times they spent together was in the southwest office. This is the smaller office that we all went to earlier today. And the defendant took Tom in there and through Pat Grover, the defendant knows all about the problems that Tom is having. Again things aren't easy for Tom. He takes Tom into that office and he starts asking Tom about his problems. starts asking him about the things that are troubling him, the substance abuse, but it wasn't a constructive counseling you will hear. It was more negative. more berating. It was more belittling. And you will hear that that defendant, Gordon MacRae, got Tom to such a level

where he broke down crying. He broke him down, being again not constructive in pointing out Tom's problems to him but And when Tom is crying, when he is broken down belittling. in that office he goes over to Tom to console him or to make the appearance that he is consoling him and to this broken down young man, who's now 15 years old, he reaches down and this is what the evidence is going to be, he unzips his pants, he takes Tom's penis out, and then this defendant, it is called, fellated Tom. He sucked Tom's penis. And I'm sorry I have to use such graphic language but that's what the evidence will be. And this lasted some And you're going to hear that no words were exchanged. There was another time in that same office, similar type situation. This counseling, if we can call it that because that's what the pretext was, the evidence will show was about Tom's girlfriend that he was having some trouble with and Tom's consumption of alcohol and again he broke Tom down to the point where he eventually re-fellated Tom again where he sucked Tom's penis again.

Now you're going to hear that Tom in reaction to this

-- now remember what the evidence will be. Tom was an
alter boy. Tom was brought up Catholic. Tom was brought
up to respect priests. Tom was brought up in the Catholic

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church. This is someone, the evidence will show, a priest, someone he was brought up to put them on a pedestal.

Someone who could do no wrong and in Tom's predicament, this being done to him, he will tell you that his reaction was rigidity. He will tell you it was almost an out of body experience. It was like a movie looking at himself. He didn't know what to do. A 15 year old boy and his priest. Unfortunately the evidence will be that this was not the last time.

The other office that we all went to, the one in the southeast corner, the bigger office, another meeting between the defendant and Tom in that office. They were playing chess. The defendant got up, he went and closed the door and he did the same thing again. He fellated Tom in that office. And it happened one more time in that southwest office another time and on one of these occasions Tom actually — the evidence will be he ejaculated on one occasion and again he will talk to you about the confusion, the rigidity, the fear, the mixed feelings of these terrible incidents.

There was one more time, the third floor where the defendant resided in an apartment. Tom Grover spent a night there one time and he woke up. The defendant was

over him. The defendant pulled down the sheets, pulled down his underwear. Tom was only wearing underwear and he did the same thing again. He fellated Tom. He sucked Tom's penis.

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Now, I want to talk about the indictments. There are nine indictments read to you by the clerk earlier. those pertain to the incidents that occurred in the offices. Actually, strike that. Eight of those do. want to explain to you briefly what they represent. of those charges allege that the defendant used his position as a counselor to get Tom to submit to the fellatio. And then there are four alternative charges that just deal with the act of fellatio. So there is in essence two charges pertaining to each act in the offices. then there is the one charge for the apartment. Again, 1984, these events occurred near to the time where the defendant came to St. Bernard's. One of the elements the State must prove is that Tom Grover was under 16 years of age when these acts happened and Tom will tell you in order to prove that, that he remembers these incidents happening shortly after the defendant arrived at St. Bernard's and again that was June, 1983. Tom turned 16 in November of 1984 I believe. Going on from 1983, the defendant still

was involved in Tom's life. He still had contact with He still provided counseling to Tom. In fact, in 1985, when Tom was in some trouble, emotional trouble, he was having a rough time. The defendant referred Tom to a program called Beech Hill to deal with his substance abuse problem and in fact he wrote a letter in support of Tom where he stated, "I've known Tom as a friend and counselor, a friend and counselor for seven years." So this letter is written in 1985. So reaching back seven years, that covers 1983, from his mouth or rather from his pen. In a letter in support of Tom, he says, "I have known him for seven years as a friend and counselor." In 1986, the defendant refers Tom to a program called Derby Lodge. Again for his substance abuse problem and you're going to hear by way of evidence that all of these problems that Tom is having to this degree are after what he did, after what he did.

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But yet he is still working the dual role. The dual role the evidence will show where he is at one -- on one hand

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causing the problems and on the other hand trying to remedy

[Counsel pointing to Defendant]

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the problems.

Now, in 1986 at Derby Lodge what happens is Tom is talking to a counselor by the name of Debbie Collett and

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Tom for the first time in his life mentions what a priest has done to him. For the first time in his life he mentions what someone of the clergy from his church did to him. Not an easy thing to do but he did it. He said to this counselor, Debbie Collett, that "A priest had sexually molested me." No names mentioned. Now remember who referred him to Debbie Collett. He did.

[Counsel pointing to the Defendant].

And so word gets back to the defendant that Tom has made a disclosure. So what does he do? That's not a good thing. He goes up to Tom and he goes, "If you ever tell anyone again what I did, I will hurt you." And another thing, you know what else he said? "No one is going to believe you." 1986. He wants that silenced out. Tom leaves Keene in 1987. He goes to Dover, New Hampshire, he goes to Portland, Maine, he goes to San Diego, California, he bounces around a lot. Tom will tell you his life hasn't been an easy one. He has had trouble maintaining a job in any one place for a long time. He has had trouble with relationships. He's had a substance abuse problem. He is

Tom had a run-in with the law in 1990 and he will tell

bouncing around and he comes back to New Hampshire in

1990.

you about that. Again, all these things after the abuse. Tom finally breaks the silence -- officially breaks the silence. He comes forward to the police finally and his silence that he wanted to impose is broken. About ten years after the abuse, he comes forward.

The State is going to have a witness that's going to tell you about delayed disclosure. This witness is going to tell you that it is the rule, rather than the exception for a victim, a class of victims of sexual abuse to delay sometimes considerably in disclosing the abuse. And this witness will tell you because of shame, because of confusion, because of sometimes fear of not being believed, the witness is going to tell you some other reasons why victims, again a class of victims as a rule rather than the exception, delay coming forward.

Now, Tom, as of very recently, filed suit against this man, Gordon MacRae. And the defense I anticipate is going to make much to do about that. Much to do about that.

Tom, on the witness stand, is going to tell you why he made the decision to come forward and why he made the decision to file a civil suit. Tom will tell you that since this happened by a priest, by a counselor, after being brought up Catholic, after being an alter boy, he will tell you

what this has done to his life, these incidents of abuse and he will tell you why he finally decided to do these two things, to come forward and to sue the defendant for what he did. He will tell you that it's the only way that he has to be made whole or — actually that's a misstatement of what Tom will say. It's the only way that he can nearly become whole and that's why he has come forward and that's why he has sued the defendant. Another issue is he is in counseling and counseling bills have to be paid.

Tom has broken the silence, the one that he imposed, [indicating the defendant], and he is going to tell his story to each and every one of you. Not an easy thing to do. And at the close of the evidence, after you've heard his story, Attorney Reynolds is going to come up at the close of the case and ask you to return findings of guilty on these charges that this man sexually molested Tom Grover and that he did it as a counselor, as a priest. Thank you.

THE COURT: Thank you, Attorney Gainor.

Attorney Koch?

## OPENING STATEMENT OF MR. KOCH

MR. KOCH: If I may, your Honor, if it please the Court,
Attorney Gainor, Attorney Reynolds, Mr. Davis, Mr. MacRae,

ladies and gentlemen. This portion of our talking with you is called an opening statement. It's not designed to be an argument as you just heard from Mr. Gainor. It's designed to try to talk with you about what we believe the evidence will show in this case and I am obviously going to ask at the close of all of the evidence, the close of the jury instructions that you return a verdict of not guilty.

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Now, ladies and gentlemen, there have been cases in recent history and they have been all over the news of alleged abuse by priests against young men. You can't open the paper today almost without reading about some of those and some of those allegations are true, some of those allegations are false and some of those are partially You're going to have to judge the motivation and credibility of Tom Grover in this case based upon what he says from that witness stand and I'm going to talk with you about that for a minute. About the victimization of Gordon MacRae about the easy prey that he has become as a target to obtain financial remuneration from a church and from an individual priest. Ladies and gentlemen, I want to talk for a minute since most of you don't know, I'm assuming about just the basic structure of cathologism, a little bit about that and how it was set up here in particular in St.

Bernard's rectory.

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Gordon MacRae graduated from a college called St. At the time he was in something called the It's sort of an order of the Franciscans. Capuchins. For lack of a better way to say it, Friar Tuck in Robin Hood was a Franciscan. The ones who wear the cloaks and robes of that time. Priests can go one of two ways in catholocism. They can come and go to the religious which is the Capuchins, Franciscans, any of the Benedictines or they can go to become what's called a Diocesan priest. Diocesan priest is the type of priest that is here in the rectory at St. Bernard's or at Marlborough or at Groveton. It's the type of priest that one most commonly thinks of when they think of a priest in a church setting, in a school setting, in those types of situations.

Now, ladies and gentlemen, when Gordon MacRae finished his studies, he began seminary at St. Mary's in Baltimore and it's a college just like any other college that may exist. They generally go to school during the main portion of the year and then during the summers you are off either working or maybe having an assignment as a result of the schooling that you are doing and that's essentially the practice that Gordon MacRae entered into and began when he

undertook his studies as a priest. Now after the first summer of school which was 1979, Gordon MacRae was sent to Sacred Heart Parish in Marlborough. And he served sort of an apprenticeship or a summer internship under Father Dennis Horan. He then returned to school. It was during 1979 during that summer that he first met the Grovers. first met Pat Grover and the remaining Grover family, Elmer Grover and the Grover brothers and sisters. It was his first contact with him and as Mr. Gainor said, Pat Grover was fairly active in the study and practice of her religion and cathologism. She was active on various parish boards and church activities and she and Gordon MacRae became pretty good friends.

Marlborough, spent time talking with Pat Grover and with some of the Grover kids as he would with many people throughout any parish that he was associated with. Any time he could be of assistance or have involvement in a parish activity or in a person's life, he would do that and that's a practice he began to start in 1979 at Sacred Heart parish. He then went back to school basically starting his second year of school and following that summer, he comes back to Keene but he is not in St. Bernard's. He is in

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another parish here, St. Margaret Mary Parish, and he serves again for lack of a better word, sort of a summer internship there. During this time he is meeting lots of people and he -- and I am not sure I pronounced his name correctly but it's Father Desireaux. It's french, but I am not real positive on how to pronounce that name; and after he completes that summer, he goes back again to Baltimore to St. Mary's to continue his studies. During that particular summer, he doesn't really have much contact with the Grovers because they're over in Marlborough and he is stationed here in Keene. He goes back to complete what I want to call his junior year and that following summer, that would be the summer between basically his junior and senior year, he gets sent up to Groveton in the northern part of the State, about a three hour drive north of He is sent to St. Francis Xavier and he is working under Father Rocheford. Gordon graduates in December of 1981. Now prior to December of 1981, he had some contact with the Grovers but not a lot of contact. Primarily just during that one summer that he was stationed here sort of on a student internship. Now the way they do it in the Catholic church is if a person still at that point in time once they have completed their studies, if they are still

interested in going on to become a priest, there is sort of an intermediary step and it's called becoming a Deacon. by this time Gordon MacRae has completed virtually all of his studies that would be required for him to become an ordained priest in the Catholic religion. And he decides that he wants to go ahead and continue on in this profession and they make him a Deacon at that point in Again it's sort of an intermediary step. Gordon becomes a Deacon, remember he has been sent to Groveton and then becomes an ordained priest. is then sent to a rectory in Hampton where he remained for It was under Father Boucher and Father about a year. Robichaud. He stayed in Hampton for approximately a year when he was given a permanent assignment here in Keene.

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Now ladies and gentlemen, evidence will show that Gordon MacRae came and started his duties in Keene about June 15 of 1983. The indictments in this case charge that the activities which occurred, the activities which were alleged to have been illegal occurred from beginning June 1 of 1983 through November 17 of 1983. The reason for those dates are is that November 17 of '83 is a birth date change for Tom Grover. So what we're talking about is incidents that occurred sometime -- alleged to have occurred in June,

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July, August, September, October, and November. six month period although the indictments starting June 1, evidence will show that Gordon MacRae didn't come to begin his duties here until middle of June of 1983. Gordon MacRae came back to his assignment here, his immediate supervisor for lack of a better word was Reverend Houle and I think you saw his offices there at the rectory back during that time. There were priests living in the rectory at the time. There were people that were employed by the this rectory, serving in clerical and other administrative functions. In fact, Reverend Houle's mother basically lived there in the rectory back down that one hall that you saw and she took care of functions when they first went to the church such as taking care of offerings, money, those kind of things. Now when Gordon came to this rectory to begin his duties on June 15 of 1983, he obviously became immersed in all kinds of activities relating to the church. All kind of families. those people were the Grovers. He had known the Grovers, he had had some contact with them and renewed some association with them. When Gordon came back in 1983 to begin his duties at St. Bernard's, he discovered a young man, Tom Grover who he previously had known that had some

incredible problems.

Tom Grover, as was indicated by Attorney Gainor, was an American indian. His parents died when he was very young in a car crash in which alcohol was involved. began drinking at a very early age. Records from the various treatment centers that Tom has been in indicate that Tom began drinking as early as 11 years old, prior to a time that he had known or had any association with Gordon Tom had a severe alcohol problem. Tom not only had a severe alcohol problem, ladies and gentlemen, he had a severe drug problem. I'm talking marijuana, cocaine, amphetamines, crack cocaine, hashish, and other hallucinogenics. These are all borne out by his treatment records that we'll get to talking about in a period of time. Tom was out of control in his life, even as a young His alcohol problem and his drug abuse problem was so severe that his family could hardly tolerate him, even as a young man. Now you will see Tom Grover and Tom Grover is a rather large individual. He is big like me, overweight, strong young man and Tom had a chip on his shoulder when he was a young man that when he used the alcohol and the drugs he had a tendency to become aggressive, violent and hostile. In other words, he is no shrinking violet. Tom

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was abusive physically and verbally, even from the time he was a very young man to the point that his family couldn't deal with him. They were afraid of him. They were afraid of what his reactions would be. Now with Tom, if you take the combination of the drugs and alcohol, you add to that the aggression and violence and we add an additional factor crop in and that was that Tom is a thief. From the time Tom was small, he stole. He stole to the point that he had to be put into counseling.

MR. GAINOR: Your Honor, may we approach please?

11 | THE COURT: Yes, you may.

MR. GAINOR: I am going to want a record on this.

## BENCH CONFERENCE

MR. GAINOR: The basis of my objection, your Honor, certainly a felony conviction within the confines of 609 is admissible but now we're talking about character evidence of unsubstantiated, at this point, thefts. Does not fall under the ambit of 609. At this point it's a character assasination without any foundation and that's the basis of the objection.

MR. KOCH: Your Honor, this is all going to come into play in terms of Gordon's contact with Tom Grover and what there was discussed in terms of these counseling sessions what

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problems we're having. The State's been allowed to portray that Gordon took these very problems that he had and somehow used them to fellate him. I mean if I jump right to the quick of what they are talking about and what Gordon did instead and where we're going to go with all this is he attempted to try to get him into programs to deal with these various issues. I have medical records from a Dr. Rasha involving his counseling long before he met Gordon MacRae involving his thievery. There is evidence in the record where Mr. Grover stole from Gordon MacRae. even admitted in his answer by his attorney that was filed in the civil suit. And it was all pattern of problems that we had that Gordon MacRae confronted when he was dealing with Tom Grover. It's not introduced to assasinate It's introduced to show what the nature of the character. relationship was and what problems they were dealing with.

THE COURT: At this point there will be no further statement concerning the question of any thievery or that sort of thing. I'm not going to issue a corrective instruction at this time but I do note the State's objection. And the objection is sustained.

MR. KOCH: All right. Two other things I would like to state for the record. He has the conviction for the attempted

1 burglary. He also has the juvenile conviction for 2 shoplifting and forgery. And I think those are issues that are going to be appropriate in terms of introduction of a New Hampshire case and I would like to argue those. 4 THE COURT: 5 You can argue the felony conviction but you cannot argue the juvenile convictions. 6 MR. KOCH: 7 Okay. 8 MR. REYNOLDS: So that we understand here, my understanding of the burglary conviction I have given a copy to Mr. Koch is 10 that it's an accomplice to burglary. He evidently drove a 11 burglar to the site that was burgled so there is no 12 indication that Tom committed any theft. He is an accomplice to a burglary because he was the wheel man going 13 14 There is no allegation he participated further than to. 15 that. 16 THE COURT: Well you can use that in your arguments I suppose, 17 but it can't come in. MR. REYNOLDS: I want to avoid a mischaracterization of the 18 19 indictment in terms of the opening statement. 20 THE COURT: Okay. 21 **OPEN COURT** 22 MR. KOCH: Ladies and gentlemen, Tom Grover has a felony 23 conviction and his felony conviction is that he essentially

aided or abetted or was an accomplice to a burglary by David Newman. Mr. Grover was driving a vehicle while Mr. Newman entered at building at 99 Restaurants, 698 South Willow Street in Manchester with the attempt to commit a theft.

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Ladies and gentlemen, this is the situation that Tom Grover was in when Gordon MacRae returns to Keene, New Hampshire really almost four years after their last contact going from 1979 in Marlborough back to June of 1983 in Now ladies and gentlemen, there were times when Gordon MacRae talked with Tom Grover about some of the problems that he was encountering in his life. Gordon MacRae became so concerned about Tom Grover and his particular situation that he went out of his way to try to get Tom Grover into several different treatment facilities. Expensive treatment facilities. The first of which is a place called Beech Hill. Tom was taken into Beech Hill and Gordon, along with another individual whom you will hear about, named Jim Meehan, tried to arrange and did in fact arrange for Tom Grover to be admitted into Beech Hill Hospital for an in-patient residential stay. During that time, Tom Grover discussed a lot of things. I won't go into all of them now but we will present some

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evidence regarding those later on in this trial. Beech Hill early. He didn't complete the program satisfactorily. And it was after the entry into Beech Hill that then Gordon MacRae tried to help him and did in fact help him get into a place called Derby Lodge. Once again, a residential treatment facility primarily dealing with issues of alcohol and substance abuse to try to help Tom Grover deal with these problems. Now ladies and gentlemen, the admissions into Beech Hill and to Derby Lodge and the other treatment facilities you will hear about occurred at a time after the allegations of abuse in this case. allegations of abuse were in 1983, from June to November like we've previously mentioned. The entries into Beech Hill Hospital and Derby Lodge occurred after those dates. Now ladies and gentlemen, these treatment facilities are designed to do a lot of exploring, exploration and sort of some in depth analysis and counseling of an individual. other words, when you get into the programs they talk with What's going on in your life? They give you diagnostic tests. They ask you a lot of questions. They have you do a lot of introspection.

Now, when Tom Grover went into these facilities, he wanted information concerning him and his treatment and how

he was doing essentially to be given to Gordon MacRae. Gordon MacRae arranged one time when Tom was at one of these facilities for Pat Grover and one of his brothers to go visit him. In other words, kind of going the extra mile in terms of trying to treat him. Now, Tom was in these facilities for sometimes up to days and periods as long as 90 days, every day counseling sessions, every day detail, examination of issues that were going on with Tom Grover.

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Now, ladies and gentlemen, Tom Grover came forward partly in connection with a civil attorney. A civil attorney here in Keene by the name of William Cleary. Grover had spoken with Mr. Cleary about the possibility of bringing a suit for damages against the Diocese of Manchester who has some funds and also against Gordon MacRae. Mr. Cleary referred Tom Grover to an attorney named Upton up in Concord about the possibility of bringing a civil cause of action against the Diocese of Manchester and against Gordon MacRae. That has happened. There's been a suit brought for monetary damages against the church and Gordon MacRae. Now ladies and gentlemen, there's been a counter suit brought, a counter suit brought by Gordon MacRae against Tom Grover and also against his counsel as a result of bringing the civil action.

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Now, coincidentally at the time that Tom Grover brings the cause of action, he is talking to authorities here in Keene at the police department. And as he begins to unveil his version of events, he is talked to on many different occasions by many different people. He spends hours with Attorney Reynolds. He spends hours with James McLaughlin, a Detective here, with Brian Clark, another officer in the Keene Police Department. He spends a considerable amount of time speaking with his, as he will call it, his private lawyer, Mr. Upton, and as he is speaking to them and giving statements at different points in time in the scenario of events, there are changes that take place in the version of Now ladies and gentlemen, Mr. Grover has made an allegation that almost the first time he comes in here he walks into Gordon MacRae's office to be counseled. upset and Gordon MacRae walks over, out of the clear blue, unzips his pants and fellates him. With no other explanation or description or anything else.

Ladies and gentlemen, the evidence in this case is going to come from that witness stand. It's not what Mr. Gainor said or what I'm saying. It's your assessment and evaluation of what these people are going to say and what the judge tells you is the law. When this case is done, I

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(Jury Dismissed)

think you're going to have a clear picture of what happened here, what the motivations are, and I'm confident that you will return a verdict of not guilty in good conscious. Thank you.

THE COURT: Thank you, Attorney Koch.

Ladies and gentlemen, those were the opening statements and the State will be putting its first witness on the stand but that won't be until tomorrow morning at 9:00. So I want you to be here at 9:00. I want to remind you not to discuss anything about this case with anyone, not among yourselves or with anyone else. And as my order says as you know from your written orders that you have, you are not to watch anything about this on television or listen to it on the radio or certainly not read it in the newspaper and if anyone does approach you, just tell them, "Look, I am on the jury. I cannot talk about that. I am ordered not to talk about this case." We want to thank you very much for your patience and your service today and we'll start tomorrow at 9. Bailiff, you can take charge of the jury.

THE COURT: I would like to have counsel approach for a moment over here.

(Discussion held off the record)

## HEARING OUT OF THE PRESENCE OF THE JURY

THE COURT: It's my understanding that counsel may have some objections.

MR. GAINOR: Yes, your Honor.

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Pertaining to Attorney Koch's opening statement, MR. GAINOR: one of the major issues under the theory of opening the door to previously inadmissible evidence and I am sure this is going to be a reoccurring theme throughout the trial. Addressing the first time that this has come up, Attorney Koch ended his opening statement by saying look at the inconsistencies or more appropriately said the improbability of Tom Grover's story and he said that all of a sudden they are in the rectory and out of the clear blue the defendant goes and unzips Tom's pants and fellates Well in reality, that's not the situation. Obviously in much of this case we're operating within a fix for lack of a better word. Back in 1979 the defendant actually molested Tom Grover in the rectory of Marlborough when he was there for the summer internship. There was also another occasion when the defendant was driving Tom Grover to an airport to drop one of Tom's brothers off and during that ride the defendant reached over and as I understand

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the allegation fondled the defendant over the clothing --I'm sorry -- fondled the victim over the clothing and I believe there was one other incident involving driving in a car and driving off of the road and similar type of fondling of Tom's genital area. The State did not attempt to 404-B in this evidence during that hearing but now I believe that that 404-B exclusion to these acts no longer applies because under Fecteau and progeny under the theory of opening the door, a defendant has a misleading advantage in a nutshell. They have a misleading advantage by making that representation to the Court that it came out of the blue because in reality and this is a search for the truth, in reality there was prior contact between Mr. MacRae and Tom Grover.

THE COURT: Thank you, Attorney Gainor. Attorney Koch? MR. KOCH: If I might respond. First of all, I understood opening arguments were to indicate what evidence was supposed to show but when I listened to Attorney Gainor it sounded like a closing argument the entire time. I did not object out of politeness and that's exactly what these These are not evidence. They are not anything the jury should consider other than the fact to give them some direction or guideline. The evidence will come from the

witness stand as I pointed out to listen to what the witnesses say in terms of trying to ascertain. What he does say is that that's exactly what happened, that he sort of broke down and Gordon MacRae walked over and unzipped his pants. Even Attorney Gainor said that and I commented on it. That's exactly what he said during his opening that he walked over, unzipped his pants, and fellated him and it was really a recitation of what I heard from Attorney Gainor.

MR. GAINOR: Your Honor, in very brief rebuttal it was the characterization of the indicted incident occurring out of nowhere with no prior contact and how to a jury that would seem unreasonable or unbelievable. And the State wishes to put the truth before the jury on that issue. Attorney Reynolds has one other issue dealing with the opening.

THE COURT: Let me be clear. I didn't get the second date.

You said there was -- the 1979 incident.

MR. GAINOR: In Marlborough, correct, your Honor.

THE COURT: What was the other one?

MR. REYNOLDS: I believe there were two other incidents of fondling that took place between 1979 and the 1983 allegations that are actually charged. Those involved trips in the car in an automobile with the defendant, your

Honor.

MR. GAINOR: And last, your Honor, the <u>Fecteau</u> case -- I don't know the cite offhand, deals precisely with an attorney's opening statement and that opening statement leading to the introduction of previously suppressed I believe it was another burglary that was previously suppressed that came in because of the attorneys opening statement.

THE COURT: Obviously I am not going to rule on this --

MR. DAVIS: One thing I would like to point out. The difference between this and the <u>Fecteau</u> case is that it was the State in its opening that said there was this counseling session and all they — they didn't use the term out of the blue. They said Mr. MacRae closed the door, locked the door, came over, went over to Mr. Grover, unzipped his pants and fellated him with there being nothing said and at most, opposing counsel merely commented upon the statement the State created and to argue that somehow opens the door on prior bad acts evidence which all has to do with the character of the defendant is although creative, somewhat disingenuous, your Honor.

MR. REYNOLDS: Well, no, your Honor. We've all known and this has been briefed by both parties with great labor prior to coming in here today. We know what the issue is. The

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allegations are that this individual has sexually assaulted Thomas Grover numerous times. Some of those assaults because of the nature of the offense are beyond the statute of limitations. It doesn't mean this didn't happen, it doesn't mean they aren't factual and it doesn't mean the defendant didn't do them, we can't get into them for 404-B purposes unless the door is opened but to say as Mr. Koch did that out of the clear blue sky significantly indicates that there had been no untoward contact before that date of that first charged assault. That is not the case and the State has the evidence to refute that allegation. has now left for the day. They have heard the allegation that this is the first assault that ever occurred on Tom They have heard that information from the lips of Grover. the defendant's counsel. Under Fecteau the door is solidly firmly swung open and the State ought to be allowed to give a history of the circumstances between these people so that the jury does understand that this thing did not arise out of the blue. It was part of well established behavior on the part of the defendant insofar as this particular victim is concerned.

THE COURT: Thank you. I'm not going to rule on that from the bench. I want to take a look at the cases and think about

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your two opening statements and come up with a decision.
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          will probably have the decision -- I am thinking maybe we
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          can get together tomorrow morning at 8:30 or guarter of 9.
     MR. REYNOLDS: Your Honor, I have already made scheduled meeting
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          times with witnesses for witnesses, assuming that we do not
          start before 9:00.
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                               It's very disruptive in terms of all
          the witnesses we potentially have in the case if I have to
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          shift those times around.
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     THE COURT:
                    In that case, we'll get it out of the way around
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                 Is there anything further?
          9:00.
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     MR. DAVIS:
                   Just on the timing issues. I understand your
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          Honor is going to potentially conduct an in camera
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          examination of Ms. Goupil?
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     THE COURT:
                   Yes.
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     MR. DAVIS:
                   Can we expect your Honor will issue an order this
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          afternoon?
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     THE COURT:
                   Yes.
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     MR. DAVIS:
                   The reason being just to whether or not we have
          the opportunity to talk to Ms. Goupill and whether she will
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          be released under the subpoena.
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     THE COURT:
                   You can expect an order in half an hour.
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     MR. DAVIS:
                   Thank you very much.
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     THE COURT:
                   Anything further?
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MR. REYNOLDS: No. (End of Day 1 of Jury Trial) **CERTIFICATE** I, Lorena Werner Patria, Certified Court Reporter for the State of New Hampshire and Official Court Reporter in the above-captioned matter, do hereby certify and affirm that the foregoing transcript, pages 1 through 67, represents a true and accurate transcription, to the best of my skill and ability, of my stenotype notes taken in the above-captioned matter. Date 3-16-95 Certificate #47