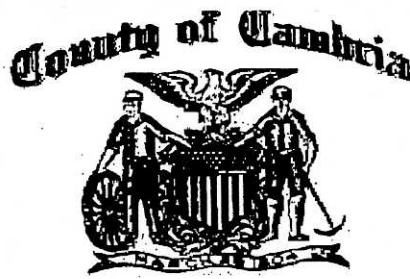


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PRESS RELEASE – AUGUST 14, 2007

A several month-long investigation involving the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections, Pennsylvania State Police, Bureau of Criminal Investigations, and the Cambria County District Attorney's Office has resulted in the filing of criminal charges against Gerard Majella Connolly, DOB: 03-31-41, of 806 11th Street, Altoona, Pennsylvania 16602 and William Victor, DOB: 9-6-70, of 1100 Pike Street, Huntingdon, Pennsylvania 16654 arising out of alleged conduct occurring at the State Correctional Institution at Cresson, Pennsylvania beginning in September 2006 through March 2007.

The Pennsylvania State Police have charged Father Gerard Connolly, a Franciscan Priest from a Province headquartered in Minnesota, who is presently assigned to the Mount Carmel Church, Altoona, Blair County, Pennsylvania with twelve (12) counts of Institutional Sexual Assault, a felony of the third degree, PA Crimes Code Section 3124.2, and with five (5) counts of Contraband, a misdemeanor of the first degree, PA Crimes Code Section 5123(c), allegedly occurring from September 8, 2006 through January 16, 2007. The PA Crimes Code Section 3124.2 prohibits any type of sexual contact between an inmate and an employee or agent of the Commonwealth. During the relevant time period, Father Gerard Connolly was serving as a paid chaplain at SCI-Cresson. The contraband charge relates to the furnishing of alcohol, which was allegedly brought in to the institution by Father Gerard Connolly.

William Victor is charged with one count of Extortion, a felony of the third degree, PA Crimes Code Section 3923(a)(3) of approximately \$7,000.00 from Father Gerard Connolly as hush money to avoid making the encounters, which occurred in the prison chapel, public. Under the PA Crimes Code, a total amount allegedly extorted over a period of time maybe aggregated to determine the grading of the offense, in this case a felony of the third degree.

The Rules of Professional Conduct imposed by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court on prosecutors and police involved in an investigation prohibit the release of any other information not of public record.

The charges were filed at the office of District Judge Charity Nileski, Cresson, Pennsylvania. Information on bond and a scheduling of Preliminary Hearings can be obtained from the Office of the District Judge.