

supporting priests accused of or found to have sexually abused children, Bishop Hughes affirmatively authorized tens of thousands of dollars in Archdiocese "loans" to pay for Father Hanlon's defense.

iv. Bishop William Murphy

In 1993, Cardinal Law selected Bishop William Murphy to succeed Bishop Hughes as Vicar for Administration, a position he held until 2001. In 2001, Bishop Murphy became the Bishop of Rockville Centre on Long Island, New York.

As second-in-command to Cardinal Law, Bishop Murphy was the Cardinal's chief adviser and was involved in managing daily operations at the Chancery and throughout the Archdiocese. He met with the Cardinal daily and advised him on matters across the spectrum of archdiocesan operations, including issues involving clergy sexual abuse of children.

Bishop McCormack, the newly appointed Delegate, sometimes discussed clergy sexual abuse matters directly with the Cardinal, and on other occasions conveyed information to the Cardinal through Bishop Murphy.

During his eight-year tenure as second-in-command, Bishop Murphy supervised the response to many sexual abuse cases. These included, among others, cases involving Fathers John Geoghan, Paul Mahan, Bernie Lane, Melvin Surette, and George Berthold. He also participated in arranging for Father Surette, already having been accused himself of sexually abusing children, to be Assistant Delegate responsible for arranging suitable job placements for priests found to have engaged in sexual abuse of children.

Archdiocese documents show that Bishop Murphy was aware that there were proposals to

place Surette in other jobs, but that Bishop Murphy helped place him in the Delegate's Office instead. The Archdiocese documents relating to Surette's assignment do not show any consideration of the propriety of having a man accused of sexually abusing children significantly involved in finding suitable job placements for other alleged abusers. Further, there appears to have been no appreciation of the inherent conflict of interest or appearance of impropriety in having a priest under investigation by the Delegate working as Assistant to the Delegate.

During Bishop Murphy's tenure as Vicar for Administration, the Archdiocese took some positive steps in handling child sexual abuse cases, such as operating for one year a supervised residence for abusive priests. Nonetheless, with only one exception, Bishop Murphy did not report to law enforcement any of the numerous allegations of clergy sexual abuse he reviewed nor did he ever advise the Cardinal to do so. And, even with undeniable information available to him on the risk of recidivism, Bishop Murphy continued to place a higher priority on preventing scandal and providing support to alleged abusers than on protecting children from sexual abuse. The problem was compounded because Bishop Murphy failed to recognize clergy sexual abuse of children as conduct deserving investigation and prosecution by public authorities. Instead, he viewed such crimes committed by priests as conduct deserving an internal pastoral response.

v. **Bishop John McCormack**

Cardinal Law appointed Bishop McCormack to the position of Secretary for Ministerial Personnel in November 1984. He began working in this position on a part-