

Reverend Albert M. Libertore, Jr.

Biographical Information

YEAR OF BIRTH:	1964
YEAR OF DEATH:	N/A
ORDINATION:	August 26, 1989

Employment/Assignment History

8/1989 – 6/1990	Student, Louvain, Belgium
7/1990 – 2/1991	Parochial Vicar, St. John the Evangelist, Pittston, PA
2/1991 – 6/1993	Parochial Vicar, St. Peter's Cathedral, Scranton, PA
7/1993 – 6/1995	Student, Louvain, Belgium
7/1995 – 6/1997	Director of Vocations, Scranton, PA
7/1995 – 4/1997	St. Pius X Seminary, Faculty, Dalton, PA
4/1997 – 6/1997	Resident, St. Clare, Scranton, PA
7/1997 – 1/2004	Administrator, Sacred Heart of Jesus, Duryea, PA
5/2004	Faculties removed
5/26/2006	Removed from the clerical state

Summary

On November 27, 1996, Father Joseph Bambara sent a memorandum to Bishop James C. Timlin expressing his concern about a close relationship between Father Albert M. Libertore, Jr. and a young adult male. He wrote that he perceived it to be a potentially problematic situation. He stated that Libertore knew the young male was not old enough to drink in Pennsylvania so therefore he took him to New York to consume alcohol. They spent the night there. Timlin wrote on the memorandum, "*Confidential – no action taken.*"

In March, 1997, a note was written that contained a summary of concerns about Libertore.

One concern was about inappropriate behavior by Libertore in February, 1997 when 20 young men from Bishop Hoban High School toured St. Pius X Seminary. As they walked by a room with the door ajar, Libertore was observed lying on the bed being given a back rub by a seminarian. Timlin noted on the summary, "Strictly Confidential, spoke to Father Libertore about all of this. Matter was resolved."

On December 16, 2002, Timlin received a letter from The American College in Louvain, Belgium. It was reported that while Libertore was visiting there, a seminarian observed Libertore taking a young man in his teens or early twenties into his bedroom. Libertore was visibly inebriated.

Summary

On December 30, 2002, Bishop Dougherty and Timlin met with Liberatore. He admitted to the activity described in the letter but assured them that the person was out of college. It was agreed that Liberatore would go for an evaluation in January, 2003.

On January 3, 2004, the Diocese received a complaint that Liberatore had sexually abused two young men. The allegations were determined to be credible and they were reported to law enforcement.

On July 15, 2004, Liberatore was arrested by the Lackawanna County District Attorney's Office. He was charged with indecent assault, corruption of minors, endangering the welfare of children and furnishing alcohol to a minor in connection with the sexual abuse of an altar boy between May, 1999 and May, 2004. Liberatore was also arrested by the New York City Police for a felony for a sexual assault on the same minor. Liberatore pled guilty in both cases.

A civil action was also filed regarding this abuse and a settlement was reached in the amount of \$3 million.