

MEDIA RELEASE – MARCH 19, 2012

Lawsuit filed on behalf of Delbarton School/St. Mary's Abbey sexual abuse victims

Two Benedictine monks accused of sexual abuse

Benedictines knew of accusations against monks long before they were removed

- WHAT:** A media conference announcing the filing of a lawsuit against Delbarton School, St. Mary's Abbey at Delbarton, referencing abuse by Rev. Luke Travers, OSB, former headmaster at Delbarton School and Rev. Justin Capato, OSB, current parochial vicar at Notre Dame of Mount Carmel Parish, Cedar Knolls, New Jersey.
- WHEN:** Tuesday, March 20, 2012, at 10:30 AM
- WHERE:** Morris County Old Courthouse on Washington Street in Morristown, NJ
- WHO:** At least three sexual abuse victims from St. Mary's Abbey/Delbarton School with their New Jersey-based clergy abuse attorney; a victims' advocate from the west coast who runs a website (www.underthegreenwave.com); a former Benedictine monk and expert on the international abuse cover-up by the religious orders; and the president of a New Jersey-based non-profit organization, Road to Recovery, that assists victims of sexual abuse.
- WHY:** Since the early 1970's, over the past decade and as recently as January of 2012, Delbarton School and St. Mary's Abbey in Morristown, NJ have been wracked with allegations of sexual misconduct. In the new complaint, Rev. Luke Travers and Rev. Justin Capato are accused of sexually abusing two minors. The lawsuit, to be filed by attorney Gregory Gianforcaro of Phillipsburg, claims that the leadership at Delbarton School and St. Mary's Abbey should have known of widespread abuse by Rev. Travers, Rev. Capato, and other monastic personnel on campus.

The abbey refuses to disclose its culture of secrecy, the whereabouts of Rev. Travers and Rev. Capato or comment on the results of recent investigations conducted by the abbey's secret review board -- a tool of intimidation empanelled by the abbey. Governor Chris Christie, whose son attends Delbarton School, has also refused to comment.

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Filed complaint and more information: www.UnderTheGreenWave.com