

NEW HAMPSHIRE WITCH HUNT

Mark A. Abramson, a New Hampshire attorney, went to court in October seeking all Catholic clergy personnel and probation files, archives and complaints of sexual abuse made to the Diocese of Manchester. The names of the alleged victims were not released by Abramson. This, in turn, led diocesan lawyers to file a motion forcing the release of the names.

Mark A. Abramson showed no interest in obtaining the personnel files of ministers, rabbis, imams, teachers, social workers or psychologists. Just priests. His sense of fairness also allowed him to oppose due process rights of Roman Catholic priests: they have no right, in his mind, to know the identity of their accuser.

In our comment to the media, we said: "The Diocese of Manchester ought to release all its priest personnel files to Abramson, but with the names of the priests deleted throughout. For justification, they can cite Abramson's tactic of withholding the names of priest accusers as being exemplary: what's good for the goose is good for the gander. This way everyone will be presented with reams of personnel information positively unrelated to any human being."

For his "witch-hunt" efforts, we are including Mark A. Abramson in our 2002 annual report on anti-Catholicism. Indeed, we mailed him several copies of our 2001 annual reports so he could get an idea what his entry will look like. Please write to him at Abramson, Brown & Dugan, 1819 Elm Street, Manchester, NH 03104.