SNAP HONCHO IN A SNIT

Just as we entered the new year, the director of the Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests (SNAP), David Clohessy, was deposed in St. Louis regarding allegations that he issued news releases based on information contained in legal documents from attorney Rebecca Randles; those documents were subjected to a gag order last August by Jackson County, Missouri Circuit Court Judge Ann Mesle.

Lawyers for Rev. Michael Tierney and the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph sought internal documents and correspondence from SNAP; Clohessy may have to turn over 23 years worth of such information. Judge Mesle ordered Clohessy to comply with her ruling because he "almost certainly has knowledge concerning issues relevant to this litigation." An appeal by SNAP to the Missouri Supreme Court failed, thus forcing Clohessy to testify.

This is just the beginning. The Catholic League has long charged that there is an incestuous relationship between SNAP and attorneys like Rebecca Randles; she is a protégé of Jeffrey Anderson, and both have been feeding and greasing SNAP for decades. It's now time to blow the lid off this scam and get to the bottom of it.

Clohessy never tires of lecturing the Catholic Church on the need for transparency, yet when he was placed in the hot seat, he rebelled. That is why he held a press conference in St. Louis blaming the Catholic Church for playing hardball. We're delighted the Church is taking a tougher stance. The anti-Catholic activists at SNAP were so shaken by these events that one of its staffers accused the Missouri Supreme Court of "an unprecedented, bullying maneuver" for simply enforcing the law.

Talk about turning the tables! This was a great way to start

the new year.